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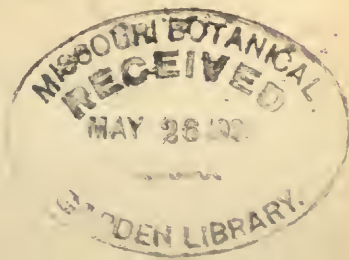
Edited by the Secretary
R. S. STURTEVANT

CONTENTS

W. R. Dykes, M. A., L-es-L.	
Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society.....	3
R. W. Wallace.....	4
A. J. Bliss.....	5
P. Murrell.....	6
An Iris Excursion. W. R. Dykes.....	7
A Dalmatian Iris Hunt, W. R. Dykes.....	10
The Juno Irises. W. R. Dykes.....	16
Irises for the Rock Garden, W. R. Dykes.....	20
Introductions. From the Garden of Mr. Dykes.....	23
Writings of the Late W. R. Dykes on Irises.....	27
Various Notes.....	32
Report of the Treasurer, 1925.....	34
Statement of Financial Conditions, Dec. 31, 1925.....	35
Fertility Records.....	36
Field Day Suggestions.....	38
Exhibition Announcements.....	38

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William Rickatison Dykes

Photo by Elliott & Fry. (Through the kindness of Mrs. W. R. Dykes)

W. R. Dykes, M. A., L.-és-L.

SECRETARY OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Born 4th November, 1877. Died 1st December, 1925

First and foremost William Dykes was his own Gardener. To collect the seed himself and to bring the plant safely through the cycle of its life to seed-time again was his great joy. To his first love, the genus *Iris*, he was always true, but he loved all plants and could appreciate the florist's flower just as well as some rare or new species. While a master at Charterhouse he grew with great success Irises, Tulips, Crocuses and Fritillarias in a sandy field near his house: Juno Irises, *Tulipa Fosteriana*, *Tulipa Tubergiana* and *Fritillaria pallidiflora* have never been better grown. At Merton he was not, perhaps, so happy although the authorities were kindness itself to him; he felt the ground was John Innes's and not his own. Last year all was well again; happily married, he had his own garden by his own front door at Sutton Green, near Guildford.

He was appointed Secretary of the Society in 1920, and he devoted his remarkable abilities whole-heartedly to the maintenance of the Society as the moving force in Horticulture. Himself absolutely sincere, he was impatient of anything that was in the nature of pretence or not straightforward; he placed his great knowledge of plants unreservedly at the service of the Fellows of the Society and other lovers of gardening who were genuinely seeking information. All the details of the Society's great shows at Chelsea, at Holland Park, and at Vincent Square were his personal care; during the last six months he devoted infinite pains to the plans and drawings for the new hall of the Society.

In 1911 he published "*Irises*", written during a long week-end; in 1914 his great monograph "*The Genus Iris*"; and in 1924 the "*Handbook of Garden Irises*"; he also translated from the French Professor Lorette's book on pruning fruit trees, and at his death was engaged with Mr. R. C. Notcutt in writing a popular book on flowering shrubs.

Beside introducing many new species and others lost to cultivation, William Dykes raised a very large number of bearded Irises, amongst which may be mentioned the best pink *Iris* "*Aphrodite*" (1922), "*Richard II.*" (1914), "*Sapphire*", "*Goldcrest*" and "*Aquamarine*"; his latest success was a very large-flowered pure yellow *Iris* of which he was justly proud.

William Dykes was awarded the Veitch Memorial Medal for his monograph "*The Genus Iris*" in 1924, and the Victoria Medal of Honour in November, 1925.

From "*Book of Arrangements*" (1926) of the Royal Horticultural Society.

The Late W. R. Dykes

I think we would all agree that the Iris world has received an irreparable loss in the death of that great specialist, Mr. W. R. Dykes. It was doubtless his earlier meetings with the late Sir Michael Foster when at Cambridge that first attracted him to the study of the Iris family. You could not have found a more apt pupil or a more qualified teacher, nor possibly two men more dissimilar in most ways.

During my later visits to Sir Michael, when he was somewhat failing in health, he mentioned the interest that was being taken by Mr. Dykes in Irises, and how frequently he had been at Shelford. I am sure that Dykes was more interested in raising species from seed rather than growing garden forms. His ambition was to collect seed, either when on journey or by correspondence wherever Irises grew, raise the plants and study them closely from the seedling stage until they grew, flowered, and seeded again. He could tell you off-hand minor differences between species as to shape of seed or seed pods, and whether the foliage was round, ribbed, or flat. He could discourse at length on the history of every species, and seemed to have at his fingers ends the habitat of all known Irises.

Many years since he obtained seed of the true *Iris Filifolia** from Spain. This Iris had been much discussed as to what the true form was. In the course of time they duly flowered. It is one of the most beautiful of all *Xiphiums*, being of a rich purple, with an orange blotch, quite distinct from any other *Xiphium* Iris. The stock passed into my hands, but unfortunately none now exists. I do not think it had been in cultivation in this country previous to his running it down, and it certainly had never been seen in flower by any living Iris enthusiast of our time. It is a most beautiful bit of colour. He was far keener on species than garden hybrids, and deplored the craze for hybrids of the bearded group. He was always urging extensive cultivation of the wild forms. Though he raised some very fine hybrids I do not think he really cared for them. He was not commercially minded, though he well understood the value of his plant. He delighted in crossing species. The original of what is known as *Iris Germanica* was of great interest to him, and he worked hard to solve the problem, but so far had been baffled.

Some years since he visited Dalmatia and Austria at Easter time, where he saw all the various types of *Iris pumila* in flower, and *Aphylla* and *Variegata*, etc. He took this journey in the interest of a well known horticulturist who has now passed away. The enthusiast in question was very keen on species and nothing else, and Dykes solved several problems for him. On one occasion of our Iris Society meetings he kept us all spellbound and breathless whilst he took us for a trip around the world, describing where all the various species grow, and contrasting the habits of the different groups and their distribution. From Spain to Algeria, back to Southern Europe, across to Asia Minor, into Palestine, Afghan, the Himalayas, China, Japan, and then across the Pacific to the United States. In many cases he voiced some little fact relating to one or other species, clearly showing his deep and intimate knowledge of his

*The American Code of Nomenclature is not followed in the text and readers should recognise that nomenclature has been much revised since the publication of the articles quoted.

subject. He spoke entirely without notes, and it was one of the most interesting lectures I have ever listened to.

I spent a memorable hour with him last June. We left the Iris Show of the R. H. S. and motored down to Merton, where his plants were growing, and there we saw in perfection the finest yellow bearded Iris that has ever been my lot to see,—perfect in form and colour. It should prove a fitting memorial to his life's devotion to the genus.

R. W. Wallace

By Mr. Dykes' tragic death a career of very great promise has been cut short. He was an ideal Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society and carried out the onerous duties of that position, since his appointment in 1920, with high ability and characteristic energy. His reputation as a botanist is world-wide. While he is best known for his work on Iris, culminating in his great monograph "The Genus Iris," published in 1914, he had a wide knowledge of many other plants, his chief interest being in the Lily Iris and Amaryllis natural orders. What is perhaps less well known is that he was a very clever and most successful gardener, growing many rare species and plants to perfection. This too under conditions that were far from ideal, for when at master at Charterhouse, near Godalming his garden was on high ground with sandy soil. But he loved flowers and had a special insight into their requirements and a gift for finding a way to satisfy them. His interest in Florist flowers was second only to his botanical interest in the species, and had he been able to give the time, his success with Florist flowers would have rivalled his botanical work. His beautiful Iris *Aphrodite* is only a foretaste of what he would have given us in Iris alone, and he had other flowers in hand as well.

I first came to know him in 1909 when he was planning out "The Genus Iris." Sir Michael Foster had left him his material, but though no doubt most valuable, it was comparatively small in amount to the vast mass he collected himself. And the working of it all out, which he did so brilliantly and with so much originality, was all his own.

As I was especially interested in the hardy large flowered Monocotyledonous natural orders we had much in common, and his correspondence was always most interesting. Though I am in no sense a botanist he discussed his growing work and gave me an insight into the problems and difficulties of classification that was an education. He took an encouraging interest in my breeding of Florist flowers and gave me much unpublished information about the species.

He was insatiable for information of every sort about Iris, and his correspondence must have been enormous. His energy was amazing, no less than his patience and persistence in working out a classification tangle, but I was most of all impressed by his thoroughness. He was never satisfied with hearsay or second-hand information. His aim was to see every species in its living state, and if possible to grow it from seed, not only to see what range of variation it might display, but also to experiment in cross fertilization with other species for indications of affinity, and, so far as it was possible, he carried out this ideal for "The Genus Iris."

His death is a very great loss to horticulture and especially to all who are lovers of Iris.

A. J. Bliss

William Rickatson Dykes, Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society since 1919, is dead, and with his passing British Horticulture is the poorer for the loss of a man whose work was a credit to our craft, the more so because it was inspired solely by the love he had for the plants he understood so well. In his all too short life he achieved much, and the results of his labours will remain with us as an enduring and valued monument to his memory, but our appreciation must always be tinged with sorrow that so much good work upon which he was engaged at the time of his death must now remain unfinished.

It is impossible to deal with all of W. R. Dykes' activities in a few lines. He had a world-wide reputation as the leading authority upon Irises, and he was a worthy successor to the great Sir Michael Foster. He wrote several books and many articles dealing with these plants, of which the most important was his magnificent work, "The Genus Iris," published in 1914, and still the standard book of reference upon the subject. Another important book from his pen, "A Handbook of Garden Irises," dealing with the genus in a more popular style for the use of the practical gardener, was published only last year, and is a model of what such a book should be—full of accurate information and reliable cultural instruction based upon practical knowledge and experience. Of late years he had been working upon Tulips, and his knowledge of these was probably quite as profound as it was of the Iris. Dykes was a really capable gardener, and could grow to perfection the plants he studied. The sight of his Irises and Tulips in flower was one to excite the admiration and friendly envy of visitors to his garden. He was a skilful hybridist, and several varieties of Irises of his raising have been introduced to our garden during recent years, and have proved to be among the best in cultivation. He had the enviable quality of being the most severe critic of his own seedlings, and he was always keenly anxious that only those which were a real improvement upon existing sorts should be named and sent out. This was only to be expected of a man whose outstanding virtues were his transparent sincerity, honesty of purpose, and enthusiasm, in all he did.

W. R. Dykes was a typical Englishman, rather reserved with strangers, and one who certainly did not suffer fools gladly. A hard worker, modest to a fault regarding his own achievements, he was always delighted to place his knowledge and experience freely at the service of those who sought his advice and assistance. Many years of his life were spent among boys at Charterhouse, and those of us who were fortunate enough to be admitted to the privilege of his friendship will probably recall him best as a man who was in all essentials a great-hearted lovable boy, possessed of a keenly developed sense of humour; a witty and interesting companion, with a joyous appreciation of the simple pleasures of life. We shall remember him with real affection, and a poignant regret that he should have been taken from us so soon and under such sad circumstances.

P. Murrell.

*From The Horticultural Advertiser.

An Iris Excursion

(The Gardeners' Chronicle, June 17, 1911)

One of the most serious drawbacks to the cultivation of many Irises is that there is no time in the year when there is not something to see or attend to in the garden. Narcissus, Tulip, and even Rose enthusiasts can take holidays, and yet not feel that they are missing something in their garden, or not doing their best in the matter of cultivating some other treasure. To the Iris grower no such period ever seems to come, and it was with many misgivings that I tore myself away in the last week in April for a week's Iris hunting in the South of France.

The morning after my departure found me at Tarascon, after sundry fleeting visions of various forms of Iris Germanica in cottage gardens as the train rushed down by the Rhone. Tarascon itself proved, as the French friend warned me would be the case, "au dessous de tout," which we might render "beneath contempt," if we were not afraid of further offending the worthy townsfolk, whose self-conceit has suffered so sadly from Daudet's caricature. Once at Tarascon, one can hardly refrain from crossing the suspension bridge to Beaucaire, and this proved to be well worth while, for the hill on which stand the ruins of the Chateau of St. Louis is covered by thousands of red-purple and white Irises, which proved to be *germanica atropurpurea* and a white form of *germanica*. This was exceedingly interesting, for one of the points on which I hoped to find information was precisely the relationship and identity of the several white Irises, the nomenclature of these being sadly confused.

It was an easy matter to compare the white and purple forms in such a spot, and the growth and shape of the segments proved to be identical, except, perhaps, that the spathes of the side branches were more apt to be two-flowered in the white than in the purple variety. Another difference was that the hairs on the inside of the haft of the standards were much more numerous on the white than on the purple form. In the latter, indeed, they were sometimes almost entirely absent, though in some flowers they would be quite conspicuous on one standard and almost absent from the others. The affinity of the two forms seemed also to be confirmed by the frequent occurrence of purple tinges and even stripes in the pure white of the albino form.

From Tarascon I went to Arles, and found that the white Iris in the public gardens there was not this white *germanica* nor *florentina*, but *albicans*, of which more will be said later. From Arles it is but a short excursion to Mont Majour, which provided a good instance of the effect of environment on the growth of Irises. At the base of the hill, among the bushes, I found a yellow-flowered form of *I. chamaeiris*, with a stem rather more than a foot in height; while a hundred feet higher, on the open limestone rocks, the same Iris was dwarfed to a little more than 3-4 inches in height.

The next morning found me setting out early, by a slow train, across the apex of the Camargue, on the way to Montpellier and Cette. It was interesting to see that nearly every wayside station had long rows of Iris *germanica*, often of more than one form, in endless slight variations of colour between blue- and red-purple. It seems as though this Iris is more willing to set seed there than it appears to be in England, and these varying forms may well be seedlings.



Iris Safrano
(Kindness of G. G. Whitelegg & Co.)

My errand at Cette was to spend a few days with a French friend* and fellow Iris enthusiast who lives in the neighbourhood and has a wonderful garden full of interesting plants; a veritable sun trap and rejoicing in a limestone soil. This means, of course, that the Pogoniris, as a whole, do better than the Apogons; indeed, there are few other gardens where *Oncocyclus* species and hybrids succeed so well, or where the same plants of *Iris iberica* have been grown for 15 years.

My friend is also fortunate in that the huge and rare *I. Ricardii* flourishes with him, and has given him, when crossed with pollen of various pogoniris, numbers of magnificent hybrids. These are characterised by stout stems, which, even in England, grow to about four feet in height. *Ricardii* itself is near to *I. Cypriana*, and came originally from Jerusalem, though we do not know that it is native there.

The hills in the neighbourhood of Cette are rough, loose limestone, on some of which *Iris Chamaeiris* can be found; but, even apart from Irises, they are a veritable joy to botanists. Orchids abound amid the dwarf *Cochineal Oak* (*Quercus coccifera*), a creeping shrub, not more than 18 inches high, and looking more like a dwarf Holly than an Oak. The air is scented with wild Rosemary and Lavender, and *Cistus monspeliensis* and *albidus*. The name of the latter was given in reference to the glaucous leaves, and appears at first sight, somewhat misleading applied to a plant with pink-purple flowers, growing side by side with the white-flowered *monspeliensis*. In some places the hillsides were white with thousands of large, white *Asphodels*, probably *Asphodelus ramosus*.

From Cette, a most interesting excursion was to Les Ongloses, which name is said to mean Irises in the local dialect (ongle being the botanical name for the claws of the segments of an Iris). The railway runs within a mile of the Mediterranean, and as the train drew up there were millions of white Irises to be seen on all sides, mingled with occasional patches of *germanica atropurpurea*. The soil is a deep sand, so loose that straw and reeds from the marshes have to be ploughed in between the vines to prevent its being blown away. The water is not far below the surface, which is drained by cutting deep, narrow lanes between the vineyards. All the banks swarm with the white Irises, which even have to be hoed up as weeds among the vines. In local floras, the name is always given as *I. florentina*, but this is a mistake, for they are all *albicans*. Indeed, I nowhere saw the true *florentina* except in a garden at Hyeres, where it had been imported from Holland.

Iris albicans was first described as a species by Lange, from specimens which he obtained from the neighbourhood of Almeria, but as it is also found in quantities all through Southern France, Italy, Greece, and also even far away into Asia, its precise origin has been in doubt. No real proof of the following theory is yet forthcoming; but no one who compares *albicans* with *I. Madonna* will doubt, I think, that we have here the blue and the white forms of the same thing. *I. Madonna* was first discovered, together with a white-flowered form, by Botta, in 1837, on Mount Saber, in the Yemen, in Arabia, and these specimens exist in the Paris Herbarium. It was not, however, described until 1892 (c.f. Bull. Soc. Tosc. Ortic., XVII., 1892, 130), and has only recently been introduced into cultivation by an Italian firm, who also obtained the white form. This, however, seems to have been rare, and to have been lost or, possibly, if the theory is right, transplanted among other plants of *albicans* already growing in the garden. The attractiveness of the theory lies in

*M. Dents.

the fact that, if *Madonna* and *Albicans* are the blue and white forms of an Arabian *Iris*, it is only natural that this white *Iris* should be found, as is indeed the case, in Mohammedan cemeteries from Spain in the West into Persia and even further east. In no other way can we easily account for its very wide distribution, though there are some equally puzzling questions suggested by the fact that the large form of *Iris germanica*, which Foster received from Kharput, is also the commonest form in Srinagar, in Kashmir; while the *Iris nepalensis* of Wallich, the commonest *Iris* in Khatmandu, in Nepal, is simply the form that is commonly grown here as *Iris germanica atropurpurea*.

Before returning home, I went east as far as Hyeres, and found *Iris spuria*, only in bud, unfortunately, growing in the stiff clay in the marshes between the town and the sea, but failed to find the *I. olbiensis* of Hénon on the *Domaine du Ceinturon*. It still existed there some three or four years ago, for I have some plants collected then. Unfortunately they are all specimens of the dingy yellow form, and not of the clear yellow or deep purple varieties. However, in spite of their poor colour they have been enough to show that *I. olbiensis* is only a form of *I. Chamaeiris*.

Another interest was provided for me on the tramp back to Hyeres from the sea by the changing forms of *Iris pseudacorus* along a wavside stream. There was constant variation—within a few yards even—in the amount and distinctness of the brown veinings on the falls, in the shape of the standards, and even in the colour of the anthers.

A hurried visit to the Paris Herbarium, at the *Jardin des Plantes* which is particularly rich in Chinese specimens, was the last incident of an *Iris* excursion, which proved to be exceedingly interesting.

A Dalmatian Iris Hunt

(*The Gardeners' Chronicle*, May, 1913)

The possibility of obtaining some light on the difficult problem of the various forms and varieties of *Iris pallida* led me recently to undertake a journey down the Dalmatian coast, in spite of the warnings of various friends that war scares and mobilisation in Austrian territory might make travelling disagreeable. The term Dalmatian is convenient rather than correct, for my wanderings have not been confined to the province of Dalmatia, but have extended from Trieste and Fiume to Ragusa, and inland as far as Jablanica, on the road from Mostar, in Herzegovina, to Sarajevo, in Bosnia.

After a warm spring day at Trieste in the middle of April, it was disappointing to have a rough passage in the teeth of a violent sirocco to Gravosa, the port of Ragusa, and to arrive there in cold, wet weather. However, I set out at once to search the hills behind Ragusa and Gravosa, for I had heard reports of a pale lavender *Iris* on the rocks above Ragusa, and wondered whether I should find the fine plant that we know as *I. pallida dalmatica*. As it happened, I did not go direct up the hill behind the town, but walked round the base to the north-east side of the ridge, where I could find nothing but *Tulipa sylvestris*, various Orchids, and a dark-striped *Fritillaria* which I did not recognise. The nearest approach to an *Iris* was *Hermodactylus tuberosus*, which is sometimes known as *Iris tuberosa*. The flowers were over, but the curious drooping seed vessels and the characteristic foliage were easily recognisable.

Having crossed the ridge to the slopes behind Gravosa, I came into the neighbourhood of vineyards, and soon found several clumps of an *Iris pallida* which, to my surprise, was neither the supposed type nor the variety *dalmatica*, but closely resembled the forms which I have received from the neighbourhood of Riva and Roveredo, and also those produced by crossing the type with *I. Cengialtii*.

The fact that *Iris*es only occurred on the slopes above the town led me to think that they might have escaped from cultivation, and I determined to explore further the next day. I therefore started out along the slopes above the town towards the south, and finally climbed over the ridge to the east. Once more it appeared that *Iris*es only occurred on the western side near cultivated areas, and after several hours of wandering on the other side, it seemed that after all no large *Iris*es could be considered certainly wild in the neighbourhood of Ragusa.

One of the peculiarities of the limestone formation of this region is the way in which streams appear and disappear again below the surface. Of this phenomenon there is a good example in the Ombla, near which I then found myself. I therefore went down into the valley and across to the point where the river issues in two or three streams at the base of a cliff which towers almost perpendicularly to the height of some eleven hundred feet. The river, as it issues from the rocks, forms a stream at least sixty feet wide. On the rocks just above one of the mouths I saw an *Iris*, and on looking up the cliffs was amazed to see purple patches on every ledge. The rest of the afternoon I spent in climbing about on the cliffs, uprooting a plant here and there, taking, as far as I could, those that illustrated the range of colour from pale to deep red-and blue-purple. It was astonishing to see the range of colour in what must, I think, be undoubtedly a wild habitat. All the time I was on the look-out for an albino plant, for I have always suspected that this must exist to account for various garden forms grouped under the name of *plicata*. My expectation was not disappointed, for I found one clump of such an albino, which closely resembled—if, indeed, it was not identical with—the plant grown in gardens as *Innocenza*. Some plants were almost, if not quite, as pink as *Queen of May* and some had yellow and some white beards. The foliage was comparatively narrow and dwarf, and it was certainly disconcerting to find nothing in the least resembling the type.

The fact that this cliff, facing southwest, was covered with what must be wild plants makes it quite possible that the parallel ridge, on which Ragusa lies, may likewise have been an original home of this form of *Iris pallida*, or it may be that the plants now found in the neighbourhood of Ragusa and Gravosa are descendants of some that came originally from the cliffs that tower above the source of the Ombla. It is perhaps worth recording that the white *Iris* cultivated in this district is *I. albicans*. I saw no white forms of *I. germanica* here.

On the next day I took the train from Gravosa and went inland to Mostar, which is still essentially a Turkish town. My object was to get up on to the Velez Planina, the highest ridge (between 5 and 6,000 feet) in the neighbourhood, for on this mountain I knew, from herbarium specimens, that *I. Reichenbachii* has been found. As the whole country was mobilised and all the forts on the hills full of troops, it seemed advisable to report myself. An interview with the general in command of the fortifications supplied me with leave to botanise in the surrounding country, on condition that I did not sketch or photograph, and that I would stand still and flourish my document if challenged by a guard.

Armed with this document, I set out accordingly the next morning hoping to find *I. Reichenbachii*, but was greatly disappointed to see, after climbing the lower ridges which hide the summit from the town of Mostar, that everything above 3,000 feet was deep in snow. I persevered as far as I could, but rough limestone, when the strata emerge edgewise and the interstices are full of snow, is difficult to traverse, and I therefore returned empty-handed after some ten hours of very hard walking and climbing.

The papers were full of reports of phenomenal snowfall in Bosnia, so that a visit to Sarajevo was out of the question; but I tramped some twenty miles up the wild and desolate gorge of the Narenta without seeing an Iris on the lower levels, and the snow made it quite impossible to reach the higher levels at which alone Irises appear to occur in this district. The rocky gorge through which the Narenta flows between Jablanica and Dreznica is very wild and lonely. Among the rocks there grows everywhere a *Cytisus* which looks like a *Laburnum* with erect, instead of pendant, racemes of yellow flowers. From time to time I encountered flocks of goats and lean sheep browsing on the *Cytisus* and the scanty vegetation, and tended by peasant women, who were also busy spinning wool into the coarse yarn of which their garments are woven.

Another plant which forms a conspicuous feature of this district is a large bright yellow-flowered *Euphorbia*, possibly *E. Wulfenii*, while on the higher levels I crossed wide stony stretches on which a minute, shrubby species of this same genus formed almost the only vegetation. Where the valley becomes broader near Jablanica, I noticed in meadows the foliage of some large *Colchicum* growing abundantly.

From Mostar I went down to Metkovic, near the mouth of the Narenta, and, having to wait a few hours for the steamer to start, proceeded to investigate the town. In the garden of a military store I saw the finest plants of a white variety of *I. germanica* that I have ever seen. The leaves were fully three feet high and over two inches in width, and the plants were obviously an albino form of the somewhat reddish-purple form of *I. germanica*, which occurs here and there in cemeteries in Mostar and in cultivated areas. One of the peculiar features of Mostar is the number of disused Turkish cemeteries, which lie scattered among the houses all over the town. All are grass-grown and neglected, while some are smothered with yellow *Asphodel*, and a few contain a plant or two of this form of *I. germanica*. I coveted a specimen and at last found a clump on a rubbish heap below the old Turkish bridge across the Narenta. As I climbed a railing and dropped down, a Turk rushed out from the bazaar and seemed to be greatly incensed at my having torn up a few Iris plants. I could not explain myself in Turkish, and neither German nor Italian seemed to appease him. However, a small coin or two enabled me to beat a retreat with the plants before a crowd had time to collect.

The white form at Metkovic was more easily obtained by the courtesy of an officer, who at once had a plant dug up for me, and I hope that this may prove to be one more of the numerous albino forms of *I. germanica*, of which *I. florentina* is the best known.

From Metkovic to Spalato takes nearly a whole day in a small steamer, but there was not sufficient time in any of the small ports at which we touched to find any local Irises. In Spalato I noticed in the public gardens that not *I. pallida*, but a form of *I. germanica* is grown. In order to explore the hills that surround the town, I took a train up to Clissa and kept a sharp lookout from the back platform of the last carriage as we slowly puffed our way up for any signs of Irises. I saw no-

thing until we had nearly reached Clissa, and then, as we crossed a rocky gully, I thought I saw *Iris* leaves. The last part of the line winds in and out through tunnels, and I considered myself lucky when, on making my way down, I hit on the right spot and found the plants I had seen from the train. There were, unfortunately, no signs of flowers, but the foliage seemed to resemble that of *I. pallida* rather than that of *I. germanica*.

The southern face of the rock on which the old fort of Clissa stands is smothered with *Iris germanica*. Plants occur on ledges which are inaccessible without a rope, and it really looks as though the plants were here indigenous. As elsewhere, however, *Iris germanica* only occurs in the immediate neighbourhood of dwellings, and we must hesitate to say that these plants are certainly indigenous. On the other hand, the fact that *I. germanica* is almost without doubt a plant of the Mediterranean region and the inaccessibility of some of the ledges on which it occurs make it possible that these plants are not escapes from cultivation. The colour of the flower is a somewhat reddish purple.

From Clissa I toiled on over the rough rocky ground all around the top of the amphitheatre of hills which lie above Salona and Spalato, but found no traces of *Irises* except a few plants of the same form of *germanica*, and these always near cultivated ground.

From Spalato I took an early morning train through the desolate barren hills of inner Dalmatia to Sebenico. It was a blazing hot day when I got down to the sea at that port, and I was rather loth to go up again to the rough hills. However, local information said that *I. pumila* was to be found at a place called Razina in the neighbourhood of Sebenico. Guide books know nothing of Razina, nor had I been able to find it in any atlas. However, in Spalato I obtained the equivalent of our Ordnance Survey map and found that Razina was a district lying five or six kilometers to the south of the town. Fortunately, the district lies low and no point is more than 200 feet above sea-level. This seemed an unlikely place in which to find *I. pumila*, which I have always looked upon as a plant typical of regions having a cold winter. The ground was very rough; in places the stones were piled in great heaps and used to form massive walls round vineyards, but there were large patches of apparently virgin soil, mostly covered with a tangled growth of dwarf shrubs. For six hours I scoured the district and found nothing. There were *Orchids* in plenty, including an albino form of *O. morio*, and *Muscari* was abundant, but no sign of *Irises* could I see. I got tired of climbing heaps of stone and of crossing rough tracts of prickly scrub by stepping from one jagged projection of limestone to another, and set out to return to Sebenico, convinced that there was some mistake and that I had come on a wild goose chase. Following a rough track, I noticed over the usual broad stone wall a patch of scrub with more open level spaces than usual. I wondered whether it was worth while to explore this, and almost decided that it was not. It seemed, however, foolish to have come so far and then to hesitate to climb one more wall. Scarcely had I got over it than I saw with surprise two minute little tufts of *Iris* leaves about an inch high. Careful search revealed other tufts, and though there were no flowers, several withered perianth tubes and finally three green capsules of seed actually longer than the leaves were enough to show that this must be a form of *Iris pumila*, but why it grows in such a locality has yet to be explained.

Having collected a few plants, I tramped back to Sebenico, weary but content, and went on by a night steamer to Zara. Behind this town

there lies a stretch of undulating stony ground, very similar in character to the Razina district. I had been told that *I. pumila* was also to be found here, and this time I had the good luck to stumble upon a few plants almost as soon as I reached likely ground, although on continuing my search for some hours I found no more Irises. By this time I had discovered that Irises do not like grass, even in the hottest positions. The positions in which they are found are always fairly open, usually facing south or south-west, and the soil contains, besides the stones, a fair amount of the red loam which is found everywhere in these limestone districts.

After Zara my next objective was the Velebit Range, near Carlopago, but the problem of how to get there was not easily solved. I finally went by a small steamer, from which I had to land about 3 a.m. in a small boat, with half a dozen Croatian natives, at Valcassione, which seemed to consist of two huts. From one of these the postman, who was also the boatman, produced two horses for the ramshackle old diligence in which I had to drive across the island to Pago. It was an uncanny landing, and only the postman understood a few words of German and Italian. However, a gendarme, armed with a rifle, appeared on the scene and drove on the box of the diligence. As I walked with him up a long, rough hill, it was just light enough to see that the stony ground was everywhere covered with the white *Asphodelus ramosus*, a tall *Euphorbia*, and a green-flowered *Helleborus*.

From Pago I went across to Carlopago, on the mainland, and by the kindness of a friend who had a Croatian guide in waiting, I was able to start off at once up the Velebit Mountains to a small plateau near the summit of Velnac, where a supposed new species of *Iris* was known to grow. The ground was the roughest that I think I have ever crossed, mere limestone boulders piled one above the other. As we got up to about 3,000 feet, *Crocus* leaves seemed to replace grass in the interstices between the rocks, and on the south-west face, as usual, I found a few small *Iris* plants. This was not, however, the locality for which I was bound; to reach this it was necessary to climb higher. At last we got over the brow on to a turf hollow, and I shall never forget the sight of this little valley covered with tufts of *Gentiana tergestina*, through some of which *Iris* leaves were actually pushing their way. Purple and white *Crocuses* and a yellow-flowered *Primula* and *Muscari* were also abundant. Snow still lay in the hollows facing north, and though *Iris* leaves were everywhere apparent, no sign of flowers could I discover. The plants look uncommonly like *I. pumila*, but some herbarium specimens, which Dr. Degen very kindly sent me from Budapest, showed that the flowers were yellow and that the plants must be some other species than *I. pumila*—possibly a yellow-flowered form of *I. aphylla*. Both these species seem equally strange at such an elevation on these very rocks, and nowhere else, apparently, in Europe! For the determination of this *Iris* we shall have to wait until transplanted specimens flower.

From Carlopago northwards, the so-called *Iris illyrica* is plentiful. By the kindness of a friend in Zengg, who seems to know every inch of the country, I was able to see the plants in flower along the sides of the valley, at the mouth of which Zengg is situated, and also just coming into flower but dwarfer, high up on Mount Veljun. Among the plants, which I saw in flower, there was considerable colour variation, and I even found specimens with the dark bluish beard, the origin of which in some garden *pallidas* has always been a puzzle to me. (*I. illyrica* is practically an enlargement of *I. Cengialtii*, and the Zengg plants certainly provided

an intermediate step between the latter and the *Ragusa pallida*). *I. illyrica* was first described as coming from the island of Vegelia, I therefore set out from Fiume, and got across by boat to the island from Cirkvenisa. I went right across the island, which consists of rolling, stony ground, in most places covered with scrub. Everywhere grows the usual green-flowered *Helleborus*, while the undergrowth was in many places pink with *Cyclamen repandum* (*hederaefolium*). Some open, grassy patches were literally purple with *Orchis morio*, while *O. punctata* and the huge *O. militaris* were also common. Of *Iris*es I saw no trace until I reached the centre of the island, and then only found a few flowerless plants among the stones. The foliage, however, leads me to suppose that they are the typical *I. illyrica*.

From Fiume I also went up to the top of Monte Maggiore and found *Iris graminea* growing in open beech copses at about 3,000 feet. The plant does not there make the dense clumps that are formed in our gardens, but each tuft of leaves stands apart, and I even found rhizomes which had run straight ahead for a foot or more without branching at all. I had seen the same thing in a very similar position on Mount Veljun.

On my return to Trieste I was taken by Dr. Marchesetti to see the botanic garden which he has formed on the hillside about the town. The space is relatively small, but the limestone which is everywhere abundant has lent itself to the construction of innumerable narrow terraces, in the pockets of which all the local plants find congenial homes. My guide also told me of three localities near Trieste where *I. illyrica* is to be found growing wild.

On Monte Spaccato I wandered for two or three hours, and, though I found an amazing number of *Orchis*, a poeticus *Narcissus*, the dark pulsatilla-like *Anemone montana*, and even Solomon's Seal and *Paconies* in flower, I could find no trace of *Iris*es. It seemed as though the efforts of the Austrians towards reafforestation had been fatal to them. I searched every open space in the wood that now clothes the summit, but in vain; it was only when I came out of the wood again on to the meadow-like land that I found two flowerless plants.

The next day I was able to get to the other localities, and in both found *I. illyrica* flowering in quantity. In each case the plants were on almost perpendicular rocks facing south-west, and the plants were certainly smaller than those I had seen at Zengg. Indeed, they were very little larger than *I. Cengialtii*. The stems bore about three or four flowers, and the spathes were of that curious brown-scarious colour, with a purple line across the base, that we find in the Loppio form of *I. Cengialtii*. It was curious to notice also that in one place all the plants bore flowers of a very rich dark violet colour, while in the other locality each plant differed a little in colour from its neighbour.

As regards the origin of the typical *I. pallida*, the results of my search are therefore merely negative. I feel convinced that neither the type nor the variety *dalmatica* occurs wild along the coast between Fiume and Gravosa. On the other hand, the fact that the Trieste plants were slightly bigger than *I. Cengialtii*, those that I saw at Zengg somewhat larger, seems to suggest that the home of the latter must be even further south, possibly in Albania or in Greece.

If I have used the name *illyrica*, it is because until seeds have been obtained it is impossible to say whether the plants are to be considered as a separate species or whether they are to be assigned to *I. Cengialtii* or *I. pallida*. Of these, the former has greyish, almost spherical seeds, while those of the latter are dark red-brown and compressed.

The Juno Irises

(The Gardeners' Chronicle, Dec. 17, 1910)

The name Juno was applied to a certain section of the Iris family, apparently for no better reason than that in ancient mythology Iris, the messenger from gods to men, was sometimes represented as being more particularly attached to Juno than to the other deities. The application was scarcely apt, for Iris was in any case subordinate to Juno, and the names are now used in the opposite relation. However this may be, the name Juno stands for a very clearly marked section of bulbous Irises, distinguished by the fact that the bulb in its resting state has attached to its base a number of tapering, fleshy roots, which quickly send out branching rootlets when growth begins again in the autumn. The leaves, too, are unlike those of any other Irises, and in the larger species, at any rate, closely resemble those of the Maize (*Zea Mays*). The flowers are produced from the axils of the leaves, and may be either solitary in the small species or as many as eight or nine in number in well-grown plants of *I. bucharica* or *I. Willmottiana*. The Juno Irises are also remarkable in that they are the only species which have spherical pollen grains. Another peculiarity of the group is that the inner perianth segments, which in other species are commonly and conveniently known as standards, are here much reduced in size, so as to be far shorter and narrower than the falls. Moreover, they usually extend horizontally, and are even in some cases depressed and droop down to touch the perianth tube. In fact, the words "fall" and "standard" are singularly inappropriate to the outer and inner segments of these Irises.

Hitherto, it has been usual, apparently, to make no subdivisions in this section, but increasing familiarity with the plants has shown that there are at least two well marked divisions comprised within it. It is characteristic of many species of this group that the haft of the fall bears large protecting wings—hence the name of the well-known species, *alata*—which tend to curl over, and meet above the branches of the style. Moreover, it is a curious fact that all the known species, which possess these winged falls, have also globular seeds, while all those of which the sides of the falls are parallel have seeds of distinct types. The majority of them are roughly cubical, the minority comprise only the rare species *Rosenbachiana* and *drepanophylla*, and possibly another species, as yet unpublished, from Bokhara.

The first group, those with the winged falls and globular seeds, comprises the following species:—*alata*, *palaestina*, *persica*, *caucasica*, *sindjarensis*, *Willmottiana*, *fumosa*, and *Stocksii*. Even among these there is a well-marked line dividing off from the rest the two-winter flowering species, namely, *alata* and *palaestina*. In both (and to some extent also in *persica*, which is the next to flower in order of time) the ovary remains for protection below the ground-level until it is nearly ripe and the flowers are raised on long perianth tubes. Another peculiarity of these two Irises is that they—and they alone of all the species at present in cultivation—have pollen grains that are covered with minute spines. It has been suggested that these spines may afford some protection against moisture in the atmosphere, which would not penetrate among the closely-lying points unless it were present in very large quantities. All Iris pollen grains swell up and burst at once if immersed in water, and it may be that this provision of spines on the pollen grains has enabled these species to propagate their kind, even in the winter

months. The other main sub-group, consisting of plants with strap-shaped falls, comprises *orchioides*, *bucharica*, *Warleyensis*, *Fosteriana*, which all have cubical seeds, and *Rosenbachiana*, of which the seeds have a conspicuous cream-coloured seam or raphis extending all down one side from top to bottom, and are consequently readily distinguishable from those of any other known Iris, unless it be *drepanophylla*, which is only imperfectly known from dried specimens.

It might be thought that the flat sides of the cubical seeds of the majority of this group were produced by pressure of the grains against each other in the capsule, but the experience of several years has shown that even when only a few seeds ripen in the capsule they are still compressed with flattened sides, while seeds of the species of the other group never become flattened, however closely crowded they may be.

The home of the Juno Irises is a comparatively narrow belt of country stretching from the western shores of the Mediterranean to the Punjab in the east. *Alata* is found in Spain, especially in the neighbourhood of Cordova, where its time of flowering varies with the elevation; in Algeria and in Sicily, where it is abundant near streams on the slopes of Etna. *Palaestina*, a near relative, is a native of Syria, while *persica* is found in Eastern Asia Minor and North Persia, and has many local colour varieties, of which *stenophylla* and *Taurii* are the best known. The home of *caucasica* is sufficiently indicated by its name, and so is that of *sindjarensis*, if one happens to remember that *Sindjar* is a mountain in Mesopotamia. *Bokhara* is the home of a number of the more recently introduced species, while *Stocksii* and *Fosteriana* are found further east in Afghanistan, and, lastly, *Aitchisonii* occurs in the Salt Hills of the Punjab.

As regards cultivation, the Juno Irises cannot be said to be difficult,* provided that they are given a sunny, well-drained position. It is curious that the species that has probably been longest in cultivation in England, namely *persica*, should be on the whole the least easy of the group, but the explanation probably lies in the fact that it seems to prefer a good stiff loam to a very sandy soil. Unfortunately, it is almost impossible to lift these bulbs, with their light-attached, fleshy roots intact, from a heavy soil that cakes hard in summer. Consequently, the bulbs of *I. persica* supplied by the trade are usually without their roots. They make a feeble attempt, perhaps, to flower in their first season, but fail to form a good bulb for the following year. When once established therefore, they are best left alone, or very carefully lifted when they have become too crowded.

The larger species seem less fastidious in their demand for heavy soil, and thrive amazingly in a well-drained bed, well-enriched with old leaf soil and manure. Flowering as they do in the early months of the year, they are a most welcome addition to our hardy bulbs, and if the bed cannot be placed in a sheltered corner, a temporary frame will preserve the flowers from the weather. Each plant of the taller species, such as *bucharica*, will remain in flower for two or three weeks, since the blooms open in succession from the top of the stem downwards.

There is a delightful range of colours in the flowers of these Irises. *Alata* is usually a deep blue, with a central orange-coloured ridge, though pure white examples are known. *Palaestina* varies from deep blue, through pale blue and bluish-green to a distinctly yellow green. *Persica* is a wonderful combination of white, sea-green, and brown purple, set off with a central streak of orange. Of its varieties, *steno-*

*See Notes based on later experience.

phylla has large flowers of grey-blue blotched with indigo, and Taurii is mainly red-purple striped with gold. Golden yellow is supplied by orchoides, while bucharica has flowers of a milk-white colour, tipped with brilliant yellow on the blades of the falls. Fosteriana is distinguished by the olive-green coats of its bulbs, and by the contrast of its yellow falls with its dull purple standards. Perhaps the most brilliantly-coloured of all is Rosenbachiana, of which no two seedlings appear to be alike. The prevailing colours are red-purple, white, and gold, but of late years some forms have been imported that have primrose yellow flowers, slightly veined with purple. These are said to come from a locality that rejoices in the name of Tebidara Bolo, but repeated enquiries and searches on maps have failed to establish the whereabouts of this place, beyond the fact that it is somewhere in Central Asia. Anyone who has once grown Rosenbachiana and seen the gaudy flowers develop at an amazing pace in a few sunny days in March will never wish to be without it again, and it is much to be hoped that it will not remain as rare and expensive as it unfortunately is at present. Seed is freely produced in some years, and a single capsule has been known to contain between 80 and 90 seeds, but the process of raising flowering bulbs from seed is somewhat tedious and slow, and takes at least four or five years from the time the seedlings appear, which is sometimes two or three years after the seeds are sown.

(The Garden, June 1, 1918)

The Juno Irises form a very distinct section of the genus, their characteristics being the broad, channelled leaves, not unlike those of the Maize, and the curious fleshy roots that are attached to the bulb in its resting state. Another feature is to be found in the fact that the inner perianth segments, which in other Irises are held erect, and therefore called "standards," either stand out horizontally or even hang vertically downwards. One species, *I. alata*, is found near the shores of the Western Mediterranean, while the others are confined to Asia Minor, Mesopotamia, and the districts of Central Asia in and around Turkestan. There are at least three, and possibly more, groups of species within the section, which differ in their seeds and in the shape of the falls or outer perianth segments of the flowers.

The most numerous and the most widely distributed of these groups is that of which *I. alata* is typical. The name *alata*, or winged, was given to this Iris because the haft of the fall bears large wings which arch over and clasp the style branch above it. The seeds are spherical, and the plant will rarely succeed except in heavy loam. It is, however, valuable for its habit of flowering in the late autumn, though for this very reason it rarely becomes established, being unable properly to complete and ripen its growth in the depths of winter and in early spring in our climate. The flowers are large for the size of the plant, and usually of a rich blue colour, though an albino form sometimes occurs. In Syria this Iris is represented by the slightly smaller *I. palaestina*, of which the flowers vary from blue to greenish yellow. It needs a microscope to separate this species botanically from *Alata*, for the only difference is to be found in the spherical knobs that top the minute hair-like processes along the haft of the falls.

I. Willmottiae from Turkestan belongs to this group, as does also *I. Tubergeniana*. The former has beautiful flowers of blue, purple, and white, and very broad, glossy foliage; and the latter is one of the few bulbous Irises that can boast of a beard. It has yellow flowers.

(Gardener's Chronicle, June 25, 1917)

The Juno section of Irises is by no means a homogeneous group. There are at least two main groups, those with flowers of which the haft of the fall bears large wings which arch over and clasp the style branch, and those of which the haft of the fall is strap-shaped and wingless. The seeds of the species of the two groups are very different, but our knowledge of some of the rarer species is still so scanty that it is impossible to say with certainty into how many sub-divisions these two main groups naturally fall.

It would be interesting if some geologist could tell us whether in the hills of Asia Minor the soil is a stiff clay, or at any rate that heavy red loam which is found in the limestone districts of southern Europe, and which seems to be extraordinarily fertile, and also whether there are not large tracts of sandy soil in Turkestan. These theories are deduced from the behaviour of various plants in this sandy soil in Surrey, and it would be interesting to know whether they are in accordance with facts. In any case, the fact remains that the Persica group of Irises dies out here, such Tulips as *pulchella* and *polychroma* are none too happy, and *Fritillaria aurea* refuses to live, while *Iris bucharica* grows like a weed, Tulips such as *Kaufmanniana* are difficult to eradicate, and *Fritillaria pallidiflora* grows 2 feet high, with six or seven flowers on each stem. Of these plants, the former are all natives of Asia Minor, while the latter come from Turkestan.

Experience has therefore led me to abandon the Western Junos, and to concentrate on the Turkestan species, which have well repaid my interest in them. Last summer I lifted all my bulbs of *Iris Rosenbachiana*, and my belief was confirmed that there are either two species or two very different local forms concealed under this name. Dr. Fedtschenko has alluded to an *Iris baldshuanica* in the *Journal Russe de Botanique*, 1909, p. 77, but as he only separates it from *I. Rosenbachiana* by saying that the flowers are yellow, it is difficult to be certain with what plant he was dealing. I would suggest, however, that the true *Rosenbachiana* is the early flowering form with bright orange pollen. The thick fleshy roots on the dormant bulb taper gradually and are of a pale yellowish-brown. Here I have only one colour variety of this form, and the flowers have falls marked with a bright crimson-purple on a white ground. The later form, which is probably Fedtschenko's *baldshuanica*, is very variable in the colour of its flowers, and has given me one or two seedlings of a pale creamy-yellow marked with brown-purple. This form has white pollen, and the roots taper much more abruptly than do those of the true *Rosenbachiana*, and are of a whiter colour. I found when dealing with large numbers of bulbs that I could separate them into the two species by the colour and formation of the roots.

Perhaps the most striking and certainly the most vigorous of all the Juno Irises is *I. bucharica*, with white and yellow flowers. Here it has combined with the yellow *I. orchoides* and given me wholly yellow forms, with the vigour and size of *bucharica*. One chance seedling of *bucharica* has come wholly white except for a pale yellow crest, and in others the deep yellow of the type is replaced by a pale, delicate lemon-yellow, which gives a beautiful effect. *I. bucharica* also crosses readily with *I. warleyensis*, and many different seedlings have recently been in flower here. The style branches and the standards are usually tinged with blue, and the blue of *warleyensis* contends with the yellow of

bucharica to produce much variety in the markings of the falls. Sometimes these are yellow with a greenish tinge at the edge; sometimes the blue-purple only appears as blotches on the yellow, and sometimes there is little trace of the influence of *warleyensis* on the falls at all.

Iris warleyensis grows well here, but never with the vigour of *bucharica*. It has also given me a variety of seedlings, including a white form which retains the orange-coloured crest of the type, and pale yellow forms which also retain this feature.

Iris orchoides is rich in colour, but the flowers are small and insignificant in comparison with those of *I. bucharica*. Seedlings vary a good deal, some having conspicuous bright green markings on the golden ground; some are of a pale sulphur-yellow, while others are wholly white or white with a yellow crest.

My failure to keep *Tubergeniana* and *Willmottiana*, both of which come from the neighbourhood of Tashkent, in Turkestan, and have winged falls, makes me wonder whether there is not in that district a region of the heavy soil in which this kind of Juno Iris appears to revel. Yet, the various crosses between *sindjarensis* and forms of *persica*, which Van Tubergen has raised at Haarlem, presumably in the sandy soil of the bulb garden, dwindle away here.

The lifting of a number of bulbs of Juno Irises is most trying to the temper, even in the lightest of sand. In heavy soil, baked hard in summer, it must be so disheartening that no gardener except the most callous could persevere with it. The slightest jerk or twist snaps the fleshy, brittle roots or detaches them bodily from the base of the bulb. It is true that clusters of roots thus detached do develop buds in the course of time, but I have yet to find that these ever develop into vigorous bulbs.

I. bucharica seeds here abundantly, and seedlings are easily raised in pots sunk to the rim in the open. The seeds must be sown soon after they ripen, or germination will be unsatisfactory. At the end of the first summer the small bulbs may either be left a second year in the same pots, if the latter are large and the soil rich, or sifted out and planted in September in beds in which they will flower two or three years later.

Irises for the Rock Garden

(*The Gardeners' Chronicle*, Nov. 2, 1912)

English rock gardens usually contain few representatives of the genus *Iris*, although there are many species admirably adapted for cultivation in positions that, besides affording some shelter, also bring them up to a level with the eye. It may be that the reason for this neglect of Irises in our rock gardens may be traced to the fact that the mountains from which the majority of the commonest rock plants come, namely the Alps and the Pyrenees, contain practically no Alpine representatives of the genus. It is true that *I. xiphoides*, misnamed the English Iris, grows in the Alpine meadows of the Pyrenees, but it is scarcely what we understand by a rock plant.

Further afield, however, many dwarf species of *Iris* are to be found—in the Balkans, in the Caucasus, in the mountainous regions of Asia Minor of the Altai district and of Turkestan, and even up to 17,000 or

18,000 feet in Thibet. The Iris which has the distinction of growing at this elevation, the highest known level, is the floriferous little species *I. Potaninii*, which unfortunately has never apparently been in cultivation. It has small tufts of narrow and curiously blunted leaves only an inch or two in height, clothed against the rigours of the climate in dense wrappings of curling fibrous remains of the leaves of former seasons. From each small tuft of leaves springs a flower much resembling those of *I. pumila*, either of a yellow or a purple colour. No stem develops, so that the ovary remains in the protection of the leaves, while the flower is raised on a long perianth tube.

But even if *I. Potaninii* is still an unattainable ideal of a rock garden Iris, we need not despise its European cousin the true *I. pumila* which in some of its forms is almost as diminutive. It is true that the real plant is hard to obtain, but anyone who has seen a number of collected plants in flower will not wish to be without it. Each plant produces flowers that are different from those of its neighbour, and all colours, from pale sky blue to deep red black, are found, together with others in which the prevailing colour is yellow, either with mahogany or green markings. To do well *I. pumila* needs a sunny position in soil rich in lime.

I. pumila has another cousin in the Balkans, namely *I. mellita*, which differs chiefly in that its spathes are rigid and sharply keeled, while those of *I. pumila* are membranous and hardly at all keeled. This keeled character of the Balkan Iris is a curious fact. Besides being the chief distinction between *I. pumila* and *I. mellita*, it also distinguishes *I. Reichenbachii* from *I. chamaeiris*, and what is still more curious, *I. Sintenesii* from *I. spuria*. To my mind, the flowers of *I. mellita* are still more pleasing than those of *I. pumila*, for there is a clearness of colour and a sharpness and delicacy in the veining not found in the Austrian plant. The colour of *I. mellita* is either a curious chocolate-purple set off by a beard of thick-set silky hairs tipped with electric blue, or apparently it may be a clear yellow, though of this form I have only so far seen herbarium specimens. A form of this Iris, in which the young leaves are edged with red, as are those of some of the forms of *I. germanica*, e. g., *Amas* and especially *Kharpur*, has been described under the name of *I. rubromarginata*, though it seems at most to be a subspecies or local form.

I. Reichenbachii is a Balkan species as variable in size as *I. chamaeiris* in the South of France, and some of the forms from the higher levels are delightful dwarf plants with clear yellow or purple flowers, differing chiefly from *I. mellita* by the shorter, broader spathes and by the fact that the stem is always developed.

In Europe, the so-called *I. arenaria* is not an Alpine plant, but it is probable that it is identical with *I. flavissima*, which is common in the Altai mountains. Short-lived though the display is, it is hard to find anything in a rock garden that will surpass the brilliance of a close mass of a number of flowers of this bright yellow Iris with its orange beard. A light, rich, sandy soil is necessary, and the plants are perhaps best raised from seed. The rhizomes run in all directions, and in a year or two from the time the seedlings appear numbers of flowers may be expected.

It might be thought improbable that a plant should be found in Transylvania and then not again until we reach the Altai, but, curiously enough, there appear to be at least two other species of Iris which have

the same curious distribution, namely, *I. ruthenica* and *I. humilia*. The rare examples of the latter species from the Altai have, it is true, been named *I. Ludwigii*, but an examination of the type specimens in the St. Petersburg herbarium, has left little doubt in my mind that these are identical with the European *I. humilis*. The plant is practically a stemless *I. graminea*, but it is scarcely attractive, and, as it does not always flower freely, it is perhaps hardly worth a place in the rock garden. *I. ruthenica*, however, with which apparently it is found growing both in Transylvania and in the Altai, is a very valuable plant. In its best forms it grows into close masses of grassy foliage which are literally covered in May with the white-blotched blue flowers proceeding from the pink-flushed spathes. With regard to this *Iris* a caution is necessary. Never attempt to move it except while growth is active in summer, and obtain new colonies of it from seed rather than transplantation.

For large rock gardens, nothing can surpass some of the California *Irises*, which are so little known but which are not really difficult to manage if a limestone soil is avoided and if attention is paid to the caution just given with regard to the cultivation of *I. ruthenica*. *I. Douglasiana* is almost too vigorous for all but the largest pockets, but *I. bracteata*, *I. macrosiphon* and *I. tenax* are all worthy of places. The diverse and delicate colourings to be found among these *Irises* are endless, and the general rule that multiplication must be by seeds rather than by division has its compensation in the surprises to which it gives rise. *I. bracteata*, which in its typical state has yellow flowers veined with brownish purple, has already given me several forms, some of which are approaches to crimson, while one is a delightful colour that may best be described as old rose. A descendant of the second or third generation of what was originally a cross between *I. Douglasiana* and *I. macrosiphon* has flowers of a pure white, conspicuously veined with violet purple, and there seems to be no end to the colour forms to which this valuable group may give rise. What is still more extraordinary is that the colours all seem to harmonise together and to avoid those crude clashes which from time to time offend the eye among the commoner Alpine plants.

The *Oncocyclus* *Irises* of the Caucasus and Cilicia, *I. iberica*, *I. paradoxa*, *I. Sari*, and others are probably real Alpine plants, but, alas, our summers are not hot enough or dry enough to ripen the rhizomes, and it is open to doubt whether they will ever become permanent inhabitants of our rock gardens.

It is different with the bulbous species of the *reticulata* and *Juno* groups, for these will live on year after year and increase, if a few simple rules are not ignored. The members of the *Reticulata* group should be lifted every year or two and treated for the disease which otherwise is liable to carry them off in a veritable outbreak of the Black Death. No bulbous plant, which at some period of the year loses all its roots as does *I. reticulata* can resent an annual shifting, provided that the growth has been allowed to ripen off naturally and provided that the bulbs are not kept too long out of the ground nor allowed to weaken themselves by starting into growth before they are returned to the soil.

Introductions

From the Garden of W. R. Dykes.

- Amber (1924) 3 ft., A.M., R.H.S., Yellow self.
- Aphrodite (1922) 4 ft. "Pink" self.
- Aquamarine (1923) 2 ft. Lav. self.
- Arladne (1921) 3 1-2 feet. Lav. bicolor.
- Brilliant (1924) Renamed **Brilliance**. 3 1-2 ft.
- Capri (1924)*
- Captivation (1924)*
- Carnival (1924)*
- Caucasian (1923) (imbricata) 1 ft.
- Charmian (1923) 39 in. Lav. self, light.
- Columbus (1924)*
- Cretan (germanica) 3 1-2 ft. Lav. self, dark.
- Cymbeline (1923) 45 in. Lav. self.
- Dragonfly (1924) Sib. Light blue.
- Emerald (1924)*
- Fulvala (fulva x foliosa) A.M., R.H.S.
- Goldcrest (Wallace 1914) 2 ft. Lav. self.
- Harmony (1923) 3 ft. A.M., R.H.S. Lav. self, dark.
- Istria (1922) 2 1-2 ft. Early white.
- Korola (1921) (stolonifera x korolkowi)
- Kingfisher (1924) Sib. "blue". dark.
- Loptec (Loppio x tectorum)*
- Lulworth (1923) 3 ft. Lav. bicolor, velvety.
- Lustre (1925) 3 ft. Red-violet self.
- Marigold (1924)*
- Moonlight (1924) Renamed **Moonlit**. 3 ft. Amber self.
- Nizan (1924)*
- Octavia (1923) 3 ft. Lav. self, dark
- Papillon (1924) Sib. Cambridge blue.
- Peerless (1924) 42 in. Mahogany red bicolor, velvety.
- Perdita (1924) (Ricardi x serbica) cream.
- Pyramus (1923) (Aphylla) 10. in. Lav. self, dark.
- Richard II (Perry, 1914) (Black Prince x —) 15 in. Bicolor, velvety.
- Ruby (1922) Renamed **Rubyd**. 3 ft. Red-violet self.
- Safrano (1922) 2 1-2 ft. Straw yellow self.
- Sapphire (1922) Renamed **Sapphid**. 2 1-2 ft. Lav. self.
- Silver Mist (1921) Lav. self, light. 18 in.
- Simplicity (1922) Renamed **Symplid**. White, early.
- Syringar (1925) (Kharput x —) 15 in. Lav. bicolor.
- Templar (1924)*
- Thisbe (1923) (Aphylla) 8 in. Lav. self, light.
- Tiflis (imbricata) 1 ft. Mauve.
- Twilight (1923) Renamed **Twilit** (germanica x stonlonifera) Suffused violet.
- Vegella (1923) 2 1-2 ft. Blue-purple self.
- Venetia (1924) 2 ft. Lav. self.
- Verona (1924)*
- Vigla (1924)*
- Violetta (1921) 2 1-2 ft. Lav. self.
- Wedgewood (1923) 3 1-2 ft. Lav. self.

*Varieties that have not been listed and described.



Iris Sapphird (Sapphire)
Kindness of G. G. Whitelegg & Co.)

A brief review of this list immediately reveals a marked interest in lavender selfs and in species and probably the greatest contribution to our garden is that of an early flowering race of pallida blood. The older Goldcrest is typical of pallida-cengialti seedlings, not overly tall but very free blooming and most effective in the garden. It is to be seen, however, that later seedlings reveal more height, a wide variation in beard color (white in Octavia, blue in Harmony), often a flaring of the falls, and an intensity of reticulation at the haft. Certain of these characters are derived from aphylla or cengialti but others clearly indicate the use of Alberti with its distinctive haft reticulation. This is a species from the mountains of Turkestan, small flowered, and with often a rudimentary crest as well as a beard. I have found a pale pearl blue form delicately delightful but the typical purple is very dull and the yellow tinged with green. Mr. Dykes has however produced some delightful seedlings from all reports and if I am correct in giving some of them Alberti blood they presage a new race of intermediates dignified by greater height and much more graceful growth than our old friends Ingeborg and Helge. His seedlings range from the lovely tints of Silver Mist through Harmony, which has been honored with an Award of Merit and is really lovely, to Octavia which is described as the darkest of the group. I rather think that Rubyd and the new Lustre are dark red-violet brothers of the lavenders, and the first at least is distinctly vigorous and to my mind most worthwhile.

Aphrodite is, of course, considered one of the finest of the 1922 introductions, a good grower, tall, well-branched, and a light red-purple (a bit deep to be called a pink) of good form and satiny texture. Amber is a Shekinah seedling and variously reported as very similar or a bit darker while Moonlit, from description, is less clear in tone, the falls suffused with a greenish hue and the haft bronzed. This last spring, however, I understand that a new and very fine yellow appeared among his seedlings. Lulworth, though described as an improved B. Y. Morrison, sounds to me as much more like Dominion and of questionable value. Judgments based on descriptions are, however, most unreliable and unfortunately few of these varieties have been flowered in this country. Ariadne is also a lavender bicolor and with the red-toned Brilliance and the highly recommended Peerless almost completes the list of the tall bearded varieties.

My curiosity is really aroused by the pale yellow Caucasian and the vinous mauve Tiflis derived from *I. imbricata*, itself an almost unknown species. I do not expect to like them if they carry the inflated spathes and dingy coloring of the species but at least they will be something new to think about. Pale Thisbe and dark Pyramus should prove delightful in the spring garden although one wonders if aphylla can produce anything really novel at this late date. Cretan, possibly the greenish white Istria, and Vegelia are quite likely collected forms but none the less worth a place in the garden and who could resist wanting to try the stolonifera hybrids Korola and Twilit, the former dark and veined, the latter suffused with violet and gray. With my vivid remembrance of Miss Sturtevant's Mystery I am attracted also to Perdita, a creamy thing tinged with grey and mauve, the standards ruffled at the edge.

I had most forgotten Richard 11, that abnormally late flowering velvety amoena that seems to shrink into itself at appearing so late at the show. And then there is Safrano, which certainly pictures well however suspicious I may be of its straw yellow. Syringar is probably one of those two Kharput seedlings that Mr. Dykes has mentioned and I consider with doubt its one-flower-to-a-stalk habit.

I seem to have a dim remembrance of Loptec as of interest from its origin alone. My memory pictures a dull purple flower rather like tectorum on a rather poor plant of a bearded iris. Fulvala is, of course, lovely, as lovely as its near neighbor Dorothea K. Williamson but it seems to need a much richer, moister soil than I can give it.

Yellow Hammer, a rather greenish yellow intermediate of size has been listed "Dykes" but the latest advices credit M. Denis with its raising. Though much talked of, it is not high in my favor.

Though I have seen and liked but a few of all these and though I know that Mr. Dykes was far more interested in species than in garden effect I do look forward to the new race of early flowering pallidas as it is called. With minor exception (as indicated in the list) all of Mr. Dykes' varieties have been introduced by Percy J. Murrell, first through his connection with C. G. Whitelegg & Co., and then through the Orpington Nurseries and their catalog is pretty good proof that some one knows a good iris. Harmony, one of the latest, is certainly a beauty though I must reserve my opinion for later checking as to its out-standing distinction and Silver Mist is a dear.

It is difficult to realize that though the man himself has passed on, his seedlings may still await an introduction to the world. There is at least a wonder yellow still to appear and who knows what other treasures may be in store for us all.

From letters to James C. Stevens. 1924-25.

"If you cross white and blue I. tectorum you will get pale forms. The curious thing is that they are very nearly sterile, at least they were when I used to grow them and I do not like them as much as either the deep blue or the pure white."

"Iris tricuspis is pretty sure to be a dwarf form of setosa, either the Labrador or the Alaska form."

"I do not think it will be possible to send Wattii in the autumn. It is the one iris which makes stems one year and flowers on them the next. The best time to move it is in March or April when growth is just beginning. As far as I know it does not set seed in this country though why that is so I do not know, for the plants now growing must be descended from a number of seeds which I raised when I first received the seed from Yunnanfu."

"I. speculatrix has not to my knowledge been in cultivation in this country for the last twenty years, for the seeds which germinated with me failed to grow into plants."

"I. Loptec wants rather light rich soil and I find that it does best when it is transplanted about every second year. It has flowered quite freely for the last fifteen years but has not, I think, been offered by the trade."

Writings of the Late W. R. Dykes on Irises

We owe the following records to our bibliographer, Mrs. Wheeler H. Peckham and to another member who has checked almost all the references and selected the comparatively few notes which embody material not gathered together in "A Handbook of Garden Irises". Although Mr. Dykes has written muchly, his facts are well-covered in book-form and the student will find little new material in the following references, however valuable they may be as a matter of record.

- Abnormal times of Flowering.** Gard. Chron. 52: 85. 3 Aug 1918.
acutikor, Iris. Gard. Chron. 70: 5. 2 July 1921.*
acutiloba x I. Korolkowi, Iris. Gard. Chron. 47: 399. 18 June 1910.
albo-purpurea, Iris. Gard. Chron. 46: 339. 20 Nov. 1909.
Aphrodite, Iris. Gard. Chron. 60: 13. 8 July 1916.
arizonica, Iris. Gard. Chron. 61: 45. 3 Feb. 1917.
August Irises. The Gard. 82: 363. 28 Sep. 1918.
Autumn Flowering Iris, An. Gard. Chron. 64: 166. 26 Oct. 1918.*
Autumn Flowering Irises. Gard. Chron. 48: 329. 5 Nov. 1910.
Bakeriana melaina, Iris. Gard. Chron. 59: 155. 18 Mar. 1916.*
Bearded Irises, The. The Gard. 87: 475-476. 15 Sep. 1923.*
Boissleri x tingitana, Iris. Gard. Chron. 66: 322. 14 Nov. 1914.
 Descendants sterile; this is Dykes's experience with crosses between distinct species. Where the species are nearly allied as in the Chinese members of the Siberian group, namely *Forestii*, *Chrysographes*, and *Buliyana* seed can be obtained.
bucharica, Iris. Gard. Chron. 53: 313. 10 May 1913.
California Irises, Some. Gard. Chron. 48: 57. 23 July, 1910.
Carthusian, Iris. Flow. Grow. 9: 292. Oct. 1922.
Cengialti (I. pallida Lopplo x I. tectorum), Iris x. Gard. Chron. 47: 399. 18 June 1910.*
Change of Colour from Year to Year. Gard. Chron. 45: 391. 19 June 1909.
 Change of colour in Dwarf yellow iris, and in the beards of *I. Vaga* and *Leichlini* from year to year.
chrysographes, Some Hybrids of. Gard. Chron. 60: 131. 16 Sep. 1916.
Clarkei, Iris. Gard. Chron. 46: 15. 10 July 1909.
Classification des Iris d'apres la forme de leur pollen. Rev. Hort. 82: 26. 1 Jan. 1910.
Classification, Iris. The Gard. 84: 53. 31 Jan. 1920.
Classification of Garden Irises, Introduction to the. Jour. Roy. Hort. Soc. 47: Pt. 1, 2-5. Jan. 1922.
Classification, Pollen Grains as a Means of. Gard. Chron. 46: 410. 18 Dec. 1909.

Hitherto as far as I have been able to discover, little attention has been paid to this subject—the reason being that systematic botanists are usually content with dried specimens, without having recourse to living plants; herbarium specimens seldom offer facilities for the examination of the pollen grains. During the past year (1908) I have examined microscopically the pollen grains of about two thirds of the known species of iris, which number in all about 270.

Among them I have observed at least four distinct types which agree to a large extent, but not in all respects, with the usual grouping of the species. So far, I have not obtained much help from this examination towards the arrangement of the species within each group, but a few curious facts have come to light. In only one case—in that of the well defined *Juno* irises—are the grains spherical.

In all the other species in so far as I have been able to examine them, the outline is a more or less pointed oval. In the case of these spherical grains, the surface is covered with a number of hexagonal bosses which in

their turn are covered with a network of irregular markings, and separated from each other by comparatively deep channels.

The number of bosses on each grain seems to decrease with the size and vigour of the plant. Thus Persica and Caucasica have each about twenty bosses to the grain, while Bucharica and Varleyensis have only from 7 to 10 or 12. There is, however, one remarkable fact about the Juno Group, and that is that there are two species whose pollen can at once be recognised as unlike that of all others. In these two cases the grains are still spherical in outline, but closely set all over with small spines. I think that in some grains I have been able to trace very faint and hexagonal markings, but on this point I do not feel certain, for I usually fail to see any sign of them.

The species in question are the two Mediterranean representatives of the group that flower long before any of their Asiatic relatives, namely Alata, and Palaestina. As to what may be the cause of, or the use of these spines on the surface of the grains I can make no suggestion and indeed it would be interesting to find any explanation of the phenomena, or to hear from workers on other genera whether they have observed similar anomalies.

Conference, Iris. Gard. Chron. 71: 325-326. 17 June 1922.

Crimean Irises. Gard. Chron. 52: 85. 3 Aug. 1912.

cristata, Iris. Flow. Grow. 11: 386. Oct. 1924.

Cultivation of Irises, Hints on the. The Gard. 88: 464. 5 July 1924.*

Dalmatian Iris Hunt, A. Gard. Chron. 53: 321, 338, 363, 17, 24, 31 May 1913.

Disease Among the Bearded Irises. The Gard. 82: 336. 7 Sep. 1918.

Disease, An Iris. Gard. Chron. 45: 249. 8 May 1909.

Disease, Irises and. Gard. Chron. 63: 248. 15 June 1918.

douglasiana, Iris. Gard. Chron. 68: 112. 28 Aug. 1920.

Douglasiana var Alpha, Iris. Gard. Chron. 65: 391. 6 June 1914.

"Dutch" Irises. Gard. Chron. 46: 19. 10 July 1909.

Dutch and Spanish Iris. The Gard. 84: 570. 20 Nov. 1920.

Early Bearded Irises. The Gard. 82: 289. 27 July 1918.

Early Flowering Bulbous Irises. The Gard. 83: 293. 21 June 1919.*

All the Irises mentioned are hardy and will survive the hardest frosts in the open ground, though, naturally, the flowers will suffer. They are, however, well worth the protection of a cold frame to keep their flowers unspotted and to enable them to ripen their foliage and form satisfactory new bulbs. In the open their foliage is apt to be so much weakened by the buffeting of the storms of winter that the bulbs themselves are weakened and tend to dwindle away.

The soil should be well drained and rich in well-decayed humus, and when once a bed has been well made up, the plants may be left undisturbed for three years and should increase annually in vigour. Eventually they will become too crowded, and then it is necessary to undertake the delicate operation of lifting the bulbs without breaking off the brittle store-roots. This is to my mind one of the most exasperating tasks that a bulb-grower can be called upon to undertake. I find it best to give the ground a good soaking of water a few hours before attempting to lift the bulbs, for there is then less danger of breaking all the roots than when the ground is so hard and dry that it only splits into large lumps. Nothing is gained by keeping the bulbs long out of the ground, and they should be replanted in September, or, at the latest, in early October.

Early Flowering Iris, An. Gard. Chron. 65: 72. 15 Feb. 1919.*

Early Flowering Irises, Some. Gard. Chron. 53: 17. 11 Jan. 1913.

Early Hardy Flowers in a Suburban Garden. The Gard. 88: 69-70. 9 Feb. 1924.

Comments on iris and crocus and a reference to a richly coloured hybrid of *I. Bakeriana* and *I. reticulata* that blooms even earlier than the latter.

Early Irises. The Gard. 82: 244. 22 June 1918.*

Excursion, An Iris. Gard. Chron. 49: 381-382. 17 June 1911.

Families You Ought to Know, Iris. Gard. Mag. 31: 321-324. July 1920.*

A most delightful article covering briefly but comprehensively the whole field of iris possibilities.

fillfolia, Iris. Gard. Chron. 50: 218. 23 Sep. 1911.

Florist's Flower. The Gard. 84: 53. 31 Jan. 1920.

Forrestii, Iris. Gard. Chron. 47: 418. 25 June 1910.*

- Garden in Winter, An Iris, Gard. Chron. 53: 177. 22 Mar. 1913.
- Garden Irises, Some. Jour. Roy. Hort. Soc. 40: Pt. II, 226-233. Nov. 1914.
- Garden Irises, Some. The Gard. 89: 124. 7 Mar. 1925.*
- Garden Irises, The Origin of Some. Gard. Chron. 56: 48. 18 July 1914.
- Genus Iris, The. Cambridge University Press. 1913.** Folio.
- Grant-Duffii and its Allies, Iris. Gard. Chron. 45: 293-294. 8 May 1909.
- Handbook of Garden Irises, A. Martin Hopkinson & Co., Ltd., London.
Demi 8. 1924.*
- Hérault, Some Irises of. A. I. S. Bull. 17: 10-12. Oct. 1925.
- Himalaica, Iris. Gard. Chron. 45: 3. 2 Jan. 1909.
- histrioides and Rosenbachiana, Irises. (Early Spring Flowers) Gard.
Chron. 63: 75. 23 Feb. 1918.
- Hoogiana, Iris. Gard. Chron. 60: 216. 4 Nov. 1916.*
- Hoogiana, Iris. Gard. Chron. 65: 277. 7 June 1919.
- Hybridation Chez les Iris L. Les Iris Cultivés. 68-73. 1923.
- Hybridization, Curious Result of. Gard. Chron. 58: 311. 13 Nov. 1915.
Handcrossing as it affects the time of flowering.
- Hybrids, Iris. A. I. S. Bull. 11: 17. May 1924.*
- Hybrids, Some New Iris. Gard. Chron. 51: 274. 27 Ap. 1912.
- Introduction to Bulletin 1: The Iris Society, (London) Nov. 1924.
- Irises (Garden Flowers in Colour Series) Edited by P. Hooper Pearson.**
Demi 8.
- Irises. Gard. Chron. 73: 76. 10 Feb. 1923.
- Iris Society Bulletin 1, 2, The. London. 1924, 1925. (Editor).
- Irises from October to August. The Gard. 71: 139. 23 Mar. 1907.
- Irises of the Future. Gard. Chron. 69: 258. 28 May 1921.
- January Flowers; Irises. Gard. Chron. 73: 76. 10 Feb. 1923.
- Japanese Iris, The. The Gard. 77: 346. 12 July 1913.
- Juno Irises, Some. Gard. Chron. 61: 250. 25 June 1917.
- Juno Irises, The. Gard. Chron. 48: 441. 17 Dec. 1910.
- Juno Section, The. The Gard. 82: 219. 1 June 1918.
- In Asia Minor there are a number of species known as forms of *I. persica*. The type is very beautiful, with flowers of a kind of opalescent blue and brown purple. *Stenophylla*, or *Heldreichi*, has flowers of two shades of blue purple, while those of *Tauri* are red purple with golden markings.
- All these Irises are difficult to establish, because they will only succeed in heavy, tenacious soil, from which it is almost impossible to extract the bulbs with the fragile store-roots intact. However, those that do establish themselves live on and flower from year to year in a sheltered, sunny and well-drained corner.
- Further north there grows *I. caucasica*, with flowers of a somewhat transparent yellow; and further east, in the hills of Northern Mesopotamia, the large and beautiful *I. sindjarensis*, with pale blue flowers.
- Several hybrids have been raised between these species, which have more vigour than their parents and which do well in good loam. The best is *sind-pers.* with flowers of a beautiful blue approaching that of a turquoise, set off by the central golden ridge, which it inherits from *persica*.
- laenstris*, Iris. Gard. Chron. 65: 37. 25 Jan. 1919.*
- laevigata*, Iris. Gard. Chron. 46: 356. 27 Nov. 1909.
- laevigata*, Fischer, Iris. Gard. Chron. 67: 275. 5 June 1920.**
- laevigata* and *Iris Kaempferi*, Iris. Gard. Chron. 48: 15. 9 July 1910.
- Lime and Bearded Iris. The Gard. 87: 360. 16 July 1921.
- Loptec, Iris. The Gard. 82: 235. 15 June 1918.*
- Mellita, Iris. The Gard. 82: 413. 2 Nov. 1918.
- Moisture Loving Irises. The Gard. 87: 175. 7 Ap. 1923.*
- Mr. Farrer's Chinese Irises. Gard. Chron. 57: 175-176. 3 Ap. 1915.

- Nepalensis*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 44: 115. 8 Aug. 1908.
- Nepalensis* and its Neighbours, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 48: 241 1. Oct. 1910.
- New Chinese Irises, Three, Gard. Chron. 47: 418. 25 June 1910.
- New Irises, Two, The Gard. 83: 269. 7 June 1919.
- New Irises, Some, Gard. Chron. 54: 25. 12 July 1913.
- Note on Irises, A. The Gard. 71: 187. 20 Ap. 1907.
- Notes on Irises, Gard. Chron. 44: 3. 4 July 1908. See also "Change of Colour."
- Notes on Irises, Gard. Chron. 46: 339. 20 Nov. 1909.
- Nouveaux, Deux *Iris*, Rev. Hort. 82: 335. 16 July 1910.
- ochroleuca*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 68: 229. 6 Nov. 1920.
- Oncoeyclus* Irises and Cold Storage, Gard. Chron. 44: 115. 8 Aug. 1908.
- Oncoeyclus* Irises, Cold Storage for, Gard. Chron. 45: 391. 19 June 1909.
- pallida* *Dalmatica*, *Iris*, The Gard. 82: 260. 6 July 1918.
- paradoxa* *Choschab*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 71: 271. 4 June 1921.**
- Planting of Flag Irises, The, Gard. Chron. 60: 282. 9 Dec. 1916.
- Planting of Irises, The, Gard. Chron. 60: 312. 30 Dec. 1916.
- pumila*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 49: 277. 6 May 1911.
- pumila*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 74: 233. 20 Oct. 1923.
- Rare Irises, Some, Gard. Chron. 53: 399. 14 June 1913.*
- Regelia* Irises, Gard. Chron. 61: 249. 25 June 1917.
- Regelia* Irises, The Gard. 82: 460-461. 14 Dec. 1918.*
- Two good cuts of flowers; describes hybrids of *Korolkowi* and *stonlonifera* and cultivation for the English climate.
- reticulata*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 59: 155. 18 Mar. 1916.
- reticulata* x *Bakeriana*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 59: 155. 18 Mar. 1916.*
- Reticulata* Group, The, Gard. Chron. 55: 143. 28 Feb. 1914.*
- Reticulata* Section, The, The Gard. 82: 159. 13 Ap. 1918.
- Why is it that the so called type of *Iris Reticulata*, the well-known violet-blue form is, so far as I know never obtained from seed?
- As the years go by I have batch after batch of seedlings from the type, almost all without exception of a red-purple colour, and only occasionally a blue form, and then always of a lighter blue than the type.
- The second generation also gives red-purples and one could wish that the specialists in Mendelism would give their attention to what seems to be an interesting and complicated case of colour inheritance.
- Rock Garden, Irises for the, Gard. Chron. 52: 338-339. 2 Nov. 1912.
- rosenbachiana*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 65: 263-264. 18 Ap. 1914.
- rosenbachiana*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 57: 74. 13 Feb. 1915.
- rosenbachiana*, *Iris*, The Gard. 81: 330. 18 Aug. 1917.
- rosenbachiana*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 64: 166. 26 Oct. 1918.
- rosenbachiana*, *Iris*, The Gard. 83: 132. 22 Mar. 1919.
- Sari, The Flowering of, *Iris*, The Gard. 85: 296. 11 June 1921.*
- Seed, *Iris* and Tulips from, The Gard. 82: 355. 21 Sep. 1918.
- Self Fertilization in *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 46: 375. 4 Dec. 1909.
- Self fertilization in *Apogons* owing to the difference in construction from the Bearded Irises which are rarely able to fertilise themselves.
- Sibirica* and its Allies, The *Iris*, The Gard. 89: 404-405. 18 July 1925.*
- sibirica* and its Relatives, *Iris*, The Gard. 85: 366-367. 23 July 1921.* Repr.
- A. I. S. Bull. 11: 22 May 1924.
- sibirica* et ses Allies, *Iris*, Rev. Hort. 83: 8. 1 Jan. 1911.
- sintensis*, *Janka*, *Iris*, Gard. Chron. 52: 85. 3 Aug. 1912.
- Snow Queen, *Iris*, The Gard. 76: 562. 9 Nov. 1912.
- Spanish Irises, Gard. Chron. 54: 253. 11 Oct. 1913.
- Spanish and Dutch Irises, Gard. Chron. 52: 22. 13 July 1912.
- Species and Varieties of Irises, Gard. Chron. 49: 180-181. 25 Mar. 1911.

Species of Bearded Iris. Gard. Chron. 58: 163. 11 Sep. 1915.

An interesting question on hybridisation. Is it possible to start with hybrids that are probably the outcome of several generations of hybrids—for this appears to be the parentage of most of our garden bearded irises—and by means of breeding experiments to get back to the types of the species between which the original hybrids were made artificially, or occurred in Nature. Approaches to the wild plants may undoubtedly be obtained, but do we ever get typical plants of which there is no trace of more than one species?—From my own experience I am inclined to doubt it.

spuria, Iris. Gard. Chron. 64: 98. 7 Sep. 1918.

Straussii, Iris. Gard. Chron. 45: 391. 19 June 1909.

stylosa, Iris. The Gard. 74: 122. 12 Mar. 1910.

Suggestion to Members of The Iris Society. The Iris Soc. Bull. 2: 7 May 1925.

sulphurea, Koch, Iris. Gard. Chron. 50: 352. 18 Nov. 1911.

Tibetan Irises, Some. Gard. Chron. 59: 194-195. 8 Ap. 1916.*

tingitana, Iris. The Gard. 71: 427. 7 Sep. 1907.

tingitana, Iris. The Gard. 83: 351. 26 July 1919.*

The description of a successful cultural experiment. To imitate the natural habitat of Tingitana, bulbs were baked during the winter, resulting in a good healthy growth the following Spring.

tectorum, Iris. The Gard. 83: 413-414. 30 Aug. 1919.

Giving distribution, and hybridising with pogon irises. Good cut.

unguicularis, Iris. Gard. Chron. 49: 251-252. 22 Ap. 1911.

unguicularis, Iris. The Gard. 80: 75. 12 Feb. 1916.

unguicularis, Iris. Gard. Chron. 59: 155. 18 Mar. 1916.

unguicularis, Iris. Gard. Chron. 65: 51. 1 Feb. 1919.*

unguicularis, Iris. The Gard. 84: 281. 5 June 1920.

unguicularis, The Forms of Iris. The Gard. 86: 11 Feb. 1922.

unguicularis, Treatment of Iris. The Gard. 77: 54. 1 Feb. 1913.

Unusual Forms of Iris Flowers. Gard. Chron. 70: 140. 10 Sep. 1921.

unumvii, Iris. Gard. Chron. 56: 273. 24 Oct. 1914.

variant alba, Iris. Gard. Chron. 50: 448. 23 Dec. 1911.

Wattii, Baker, Iris. Gard. Chron. 57: 95. 20 Feb. 1915.

Watsoniana, Iris. Gard. Chron. 65: 391. 6 June 1914.

White Flowered Species, Certain. Gard. Chron. 48: 209. 17 Sep. 1910.

White Pogoniris, Some. Gard. Chron. 64: 204. 23 Nov. 1918.

Volume number given in bold type thus 52: then page 85. and date 3 Aug. 1912.

CONCERNING W. R. DYKES

Dykes, M.A., L.-es-L., William R. (obituary) Gard. Ill. 47: 753. 5 Dec. 1925.

Dykes; An Appreciation, The late Mr. W. R. The Gard. 89: 702. 12 Dec. 1925.*

Dykes, W. R. (picture) Gard. Chron. 68: 72. 14 Feb. 1920.

Sub Committee for Classification of Bearded Irises. Jour. Roy. Hort. Soc.

41: CXXIV. 1 June 1915.

Iris Exhibited by W. R. Dykes at Royal Horticultural Society. The Gard.

84: 236. 8 May 1920.

Handbook of Garden Irises, A. (review) Jour. Roy. Hort. Soc. 50: Pt. 1.

118-120. Jan. 1925.

Dykes Collection of Iris, Sale of. Gard. Chron. 68: 79. 14 Aug. 1920.

Sale in England, Great Iris. Flor. Ex. 50: 509. July-Dec. 1920.

*Illustrated.

**Color plate.

Various Notes

W. R. Dykes, the second son of Alfred Dykes, first went to the City of London School and then went up to Wadham College, Oxford, where he took honors in the classical schools and was also L-es-L. of the University of Paris. For over sixteen years he was master at Charterhouse, one of the largest and best known of the English schools and it was during this period that he carried on the study of irises. That a man harried by the many demands of school routine and handicapped by the most modest of incomes should win world recognition is a splendid example of the value of perseverance along one line of interest. One can imagine the eagerness with which he hurries to his garden plots, the welcome with which he greets a new acquisition as the deserved reward of long seeking in correspondence with far-flung friends, the anticipation that marks the plans for a visit to Sir Michael Foster or for a prospecting trip in new fields. Pains-taking care was required for such work as his and yet it was with a sort of boyish enthusiasm that he would talk and write on irises. His was the inquiring type of mind, always seeking, never quite satisfied perhaps. In his contribution to *The Times* and various garden papers but above all in his many letters one can appreciate his delight in coming upon some new or odd bit of information.

In the selection of articles for reprinting it has been difficult to find new material. His grasp of the subject was so comprehensive that his latest book always gave his latest thoughts. It has seemed wise to retain names and comments unchanged and to warn readers that he himself often has found cause to recognise new names, new facts based on new experiences. It was not in his nature to think that the work on irises would ever be complete.

Many members of our Society were among his correspondents and I offer but few extracts from the many letters of interest.

From a letter to Mrs. McKinney, Nov. 27, 1918.

"No, I have never seen or heard of a dark coloured form of *Iris cristata*. I thought at first that your friend might be misdescribing the colour of the ordinary form for every individual seems to differ as to precise shades and names of colours. I gather on re-reading that you say that your friend is familiar with the ordinary pale form so that there can be no mistake about it and it is most interesting. I hope you will succeed in flowering it and I shall be interested to hear what you think of it if you do. There is in cultivation, or at any rate there was, a white form but I have not seen it. I should quite expect such an albino to exist and crosses between the white and the lavender-blue would certainly give colour variations.

"*Iris cristata* is not much grown here, I am afraid, chiefly I think because people mismanage it and try to move it in the autumn, which is fatal here. It is very easily transplanted immediately after the flowers are over for it is then that the new shoots begin to take root. I find it succeeds best where it is partially shaded by trees at a little distance and in a soil consisting mainly of old leaf mould. I imagine this agrees more or less with conditions where it is wild.

"Please let me know if you succeed in raising *arenaria* and *cristata*. It will astonish me if you do and the result will be most exciting. There is something that I do not understand about the germination of seeds of *cristata*. I can always get seeds, if I pollinate the flowers with one an-

other's pollen but so far no seed of cristata has ever germinated here. I think it is the only homegrown seed with which I have had this total lack of success.

"My chief delight at the moment is a frame containing 50 or 60 plants of Iris Rosenbachiana in flower at once and every one slightly different."

From a letter to Miss Sturtevant, Mar. 22, 1919.

"Of course Florentina is not really a white Iris but only white by comparison and I do not know of any variety called King Christian. Albicans, as I know it, is far whiter than Florentina but of course the petals are rather pointed. I should imagine it would come true from seed or approximately so.

"As with you, seed-pods are rare on Germanicas here, and even when a pod forms it usually contains nothing or at the most one or two sound seeds. I have contrived to raise two seedlings of Kharput, both dwarf with large flowers and one is blue and the other a red-purple. I have also raised some very curious pale bluish seedlings from a form of germanica which I collected on the island of Vegelia in the Adriatic. These are very like giant or large Aphyllas and confirm me in my belief that somehow or other Germanica in all its types is only of hybrid origin, with Aphylla probably for one of its parents, but I have as yet no suggestion to make as to what the other parent might be."

**The Glen Road Iris Gardens
Wellesley Farms, Mass.**

Make a specialty of new introductions, listing many of the finest varieties known.

Grace Sturtevant, Prop.

ROSES—IRIS—PEONIES

Stock of the very best at reasonable prices.

ROSEDALE NURSERIES
Tarrytown, N. Y.

NEWS from the Hybridizer's Workshop. Rare Iris and other Perennials. Goos and Koemann's latest Iris creations. Send for this descriptive list containing some rare things not obtainable elsewhere.

Frank Koehler, Hybridizer, Camden, N. J.
—Rosedale Hardy Plant Farm—

ODAROLOC

President John C. Wister says: "Finest new variety that I have seen this year, and I am most optimistic over its future." Price for the season, 1926: \$5.00 each, three for \$12.50. Ask for catalogue with description of this new Iris, listing also other Iris, Peonies, and novelties in shrubs, mountain flowers, rock plants, etc. Mailed free.

D. M. ANDREWS

P. O. Box 493, Boulder, Col.

Shanunga Iris Gardens

Bearded Iris acclimated to severe Maine winters. Choice new introductions and standard varieties. Catalogue with hints for beginners.

MRS. WALTER E. TOBIE
3 Deering Street, Portland, Maine

Report of the Treasurer

JANUARY 1, 1925 TO DECEMBER 31, 1925

Income

Annual Dues		
1925 — 844 Members.....	\$2,532.00	
Sales of Bulletins.....	240.95	
Advertising	316.00	
Contributions:		
Publications	\$46.87	
Unspecified	42.30	
		89.17
Interest Current Account.....		44.42
Income Life Membership Investment Fund.....		67.74
Exhibition Supplies.....		26.25
Exchange		.42
Total Income		\$3,316.95

Expenses

Administrative:		
Stationery and Printing.....	\$158.53	
Postage and Expressage.....	58.33	
Miscellaneous	2.50	
Meetings	146.50	
Stenography and Typewriting	297.43	
Treasurer's Bond.....	15.00	
		\$ 678.29
Bulletins:		
Printing	\$1,763.00	
Postage	95.85	
Envelopes	40.75	
Typewriting	123.25	
Miscellaneous Publications.....	190.74	
		\$2,213.59
Test Gardens		190.32
Exhibition — Supplies and Expense.....		122.12
Contribution — Sterility Research		200.00
Total Expenses		3,404.32
Deficit for Year		\$87.37

Chester, Pennsylvania.
February 26, 1926.

I have examined the books of the American Iris Society as kept by Mr. Arthur H. Scott, Treasurer, and find the statements to be a correct report of the financial transactions for the year ending December 31, 1925, and of its financial condition on that date.

S. J. Brody, Auditor.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION DECEMBER 31, 1925.

Assets

Cash in Bank.....	\$1,681.31
Bonds Owned	1,351.92
	\$3,033.23

Liabilities

Vouchers Payable.....	\$1,275.34
Special Award — Robert Wayman.....	100.00
Reserve for Life Memberships.....	1,350.00
Reserve for 1926 Annual Dues (Received 1925).....	21.00

Surplus:

January 1, 1925.....	\$374.26	
Deficit Year Ending		
December 31, 1925.....	87.37	
Surplus December 31, 1925		286.89
		\$3,033.23

CAN YOU THINK OF A BETTER WAY?

Each August the Farr plantsmen set out a new and complete planting of irises.

Including 556 varieties and arranged alphabetically from Afterglow to Zua.

Two years pass before shipments are made from this new planting. Two blooming seasons for checking, field notes and trueing.

Thus, there are always three separate plantings of each variety except the very newest.

Poor growth in one planting will not affect the entire stock of any variety.

Always a reserve of good roots on hand.

A plan which is costly but made possible because of the leadership and sales volume which the Farr name has acquired.

A plan which has helped to triple Farr iris sales in the last three years.

Can you think of a better way? If you can, we will want to know about it.

NOTE:—Better Plants—By Farr does not mean that Farr plants are always better than those of any other grower but it does mean that Farr quality and service are being improved in every way possible. The maintenance of three separate Iris plantings is only one example. See the 1926 Farr catalog for other details. Become a Farr customer and receive the benefit of our determination to fill every order in a manner which will encourage another.

FARR NURSERY COMPANY

500 GARFIELD AVENUE
WYOMISSING, Pa.

Fertility Records

Inasmuch as The Report on Sterility in Irises was based, of necessity, on the older varieties grown in the Trial Garden, it would seem that the following list of novelties might prove of assistance to many amateur breeders. Mrs. J. F. Emigholz, Miss Grace Sturtevant, Sydney B. Mitchell, Dr. Ayres, and E. G. Lapham have sent in records which with others we plan to publish later.

As methods of report vary largely I shall indicate but two classes S—ability to produce seed and P—pollen fertile. A? or absence of report indicates doubt or absence of record.

Afterglow, S. P.	Baronet, S. P.	Col. Candelot, S.
Alberti, S. P.	Bellorio, S. ?	Conquistador, S. P.
Alcazar, S. P. good	Ballerine, S. P.	Crusader, S. P.
Ambigu, S. ?	Barrelane, S. P.	Cygnets, S. P.
Ambassadeur, S. very	Bolingbroke, P.	
poor, no pollen?	Bruno, S. P.	Dalila, S.
Anne Bullen, S.	B. Y. Morrison, S. P.	Dawn, S. ?
Anna Farr, S. P.	Camelot, S.	Day Dream, S. ?
Angelo, S.	Cameo, P.	D'licatissima, S. none
Anne Leslie, S. P.	Canopus, S. P.	Delazet, S. ?
Anne Page, S.	Cardinal, S. P.	Delight, S. none
Antonio, P.	Caroline E. Stringer, S. ?	Dora Longdon, S.
Aphrodite, S. P. good	Carthusian, S. poor	Dominion, S. P.
Archevêque, S. P.	Carnation, S. none	Deuil de Valery Mayet, S.
Argentina, S. P.	Cecil Minturn, S.	Dream, S.
Athene, S. P.	Chalice, S. P.	Duke of Bedford, S. P.
Avalon, S. P.	Chasseur, ? P.	Edith Cavell, S. P. poor
Azulado, S. ?	Clement Desormes, S. P.	Ed. Michel, S. P. poor
Asia, S. P.	Circe, S. P.	Empire, S. P.
Aurora, S. P. poor	Cluny, S.	E. H. Jenkins, S.

THE FAMOUS ORPINGTON IRISES

The Finest Collection
in Europe
Catalogue Post Free
ORPINGTON NURSERIES Co.
Orpington, England.

The following collection, worth
\$7.00, is being offered for \$5.00—
Camelot, Hippolyta, La Neige, Pink
Pearl, Prospero, Sarabanda. Cash
with order. Postage prepaid.

Descriptive List on request

MRS. J. F. EMIGHOLZ

3684 Boudinot Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio

I CAN offer for spring delivery plants of the wonderful Hyacinthiana. Hyacinthiana was discovered by the late Reginald Farrar and numbered 496. It belongs to the Ensata group and grows abundantly all over the loess lands of Kansu, China.

The dark green foliage tops the flowers which are blue and white, two to the stem. The foliage continues to grow until August when it is fountain like, similar to an ornamental Japanese grass. This plant would be very desirable if it never flowered, but it throws up abundant stems and a sure bloomer. Very hardy. Requires a poor dry soil to do its best.

I am offering year old plants, \$4.00 per doz. Six plants at the dozen price.

HURON VALLEY IRIS GARDENS

Ann Arbor, Mich.

SAM BURCHFIELD

Eglamour, P.	Lady Foster, S. P.	Neptune, S. P.
Ensign, S. P.	La Neige, S. P. poor	Nine Wells, S. P.
Esplendido, P.	Lent A Williamson, S. P.	Nirvana, none
Feldspar, S. none	Leverrier, S.	Opera, P. very poor
Fenella, ? P.	Lord of June, S. P.	Old Ivory, S. ?
Flambeau, S. ?	Lord Lambourne, S. P.	Oriflamme, S. P.
Flutterby, S. none		Ochracea, S.
Francinna, S.	Magnifica, S. P.	Pandora, S. P.
Fryers Glory, S. P.	May Rose, P.	Parisiana, S. P.
George Yeld, S. P.	Medrano, S.	Pauline, P.
Georgia, P.	Merlin, S. ?	Phyllis Bliss, P.
Glamour, S. P.	Menetrier, S. P.	Pioneer, ? P.
Glowing Embers, S. P.	Milky Way, S. ?	Prince Charming, S. P.
Gold Imperial, S. P.	Mid West, ? P.	Primavere, S. ?
Grapta, P.	Minniehaha S.	Princess Beatrice, S. P.
Halo, S. P.	Miss Willmott, S. P.	Prosper Laugier, S. P.
Harpalion, S.	Mlle. Autissier, S.	Prosperity, S. P.
Harriet Presby, S. P.	Mlle. Schwartz, S. P.	Prospero, ? P.
Hermione, S. P.	Mme. Cheri, S. P.	Quaker Lady, S.
Hippolyta, S.	Mme. Chobaut, S. P. poor	Queen Caterina, S. P.
Hope, S. P.	Mme. Durrande, S. P.	poor
Inner Glow, S. none	Mme. Monet, S. P. poor	
Iolanthe, S. none	Moa, S. P.	Rameldo, S.
Istria, S. P.	Moliere, S.	Reverie, S. none
Isoline, S. P. poor	M. Hubert, S. P.	Rhein Nixe, S.
Jean Chevreau, S. P.	M. Brun, S. P.	Rialgar, ? P.
Jenett Dean, S. P.	M. Cornuault, S.	Ricardi fonce, S. P.
Juniata, S. P.	M. Perthuis, S.	Ringdove, S. P.
Jubilee, S. P.	Morning Splendour, S. P.	Rodney, S.
Kashmir White, S. P.	Mother of Pearl, S. P.	Romany, P.
Katrinka, S. P.	Mount Penn, none	Rosado, S. none
Koya, S. P.	Mrs. Cuthbertson, S.	Roseway, S. P.
	Nancy Orne, S. P.	Rose Madder, S. none
	Naomi, S. P.	

IRISES PEONIES GLADIOLI

Price List on request

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30 Years Collecting! 30 Years Selecting!! 30 Years Rejecting!!!

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LILIES ALSO A SPECIALTY

Catalogues on application

R. Wallace & Co., Ltd., The Old Gardens, Tunbridge Wells, England

San Gabriel, S. P.
 Sarpedon, ? P.
 Sarabande, S. P.
 Shalimar, S.
 Shelford Chieftain, S. P.
 Sherbet, S. P.
 S. H. White, S. P. poor
 Shekinah, S. P.
 Sherwin Wright, S. P.
 Sindikha, S. P.
 Soledad, S. P.
 Sophronia, S. P.

Souv. Mme. Gaudichau, S.
 P.
 Souv. L. Michaud, P.
 Suzanne Autissier, S. P.
 Susan Bliss, S. P.
 Swazi, P.
 Syphax, S.
 Taj Mahal, S. P.
 Troost, P.
 True Charm, S. ?
 True Delight, S.

Valkyrie, S. P.
 Viking, P.
 Vincentio, S. P.
 Virginia Moore, S. P.
 White Knight, S. P.
 White Queen, S.
 Wild Rose, S. poor
 Wyomissing, P.
 Yeoman, S. P.
 Zua, none

Field Day Suggestions

I note that a number of Field Days are planned for the coming Spring and although we have had no previous experience in this respect, I think that something along the line of the following plan should be done.

1st. Advance notice to all members in an A. I. S. publication requesting that interested members respond.

2nd. A circular letter to local members requesting notice of their attendance and ability to assist in transportation, refreshments, etc.

3rd. Final announcement stating place, date, and time of assembly with an alternative date in case of rain.

Routing, etc., should be in the hands of one committee and, I presume, a small charge should be made to cover costs of administration and, if required, transportation for out-of-town visitors. Inasmuch as there may be many such plans the Society cannot incur any expense in behalf of the local members. The costs of postage, mimeographing, etc., should not be sufficiently large to deter members from sharing in the plan.

Exhibition Announcements

Mrs. J. Edgar Hires, Ardmore, Pa., has been notified of the following plans for Iris Exhibits. The dates should be considered as approximate only.

Full information may be secured from the local secretaries.

NOTICE Requests for supplies must be received before May 7.

Our 1926 Iris List



which we offer this year includes the best new and standard varieties of both domestic and foreign origin.

This new catalog is now ready and may be had on request.

THE MADDOX BULB GARDENS

M. R. 5 Sacramento, Calif.

CARL SALBACH

/ catalogs

IRISES AND GLADIOLI
 in the newest varieties
 including the famous
 Mohr seedlings.

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 CALIFORNIA**

IRISES AND PEONIES

Hundreds of varieties
 Visitors always welcome.
 No description equals seeing the
 flower.

CHAS. F. WASSENBERG
 Van Wert, Ohio.

Belvidere, Ill. 1st week in June. Mrs. John Kuppler, 1103 Pearl St.
 Boston, Mass. June 5-6. Mass. Horticultural So. 300 Huntington Ave.
 Field Day, 2nd week of June. Mrs. V. Kenah Davis, 1325 Beacon St.,
 Brookline.
 Cincinnati, Ohio. Mrs. Lewis R. Smith, 2215 Victory Parkway.
 Denver, Col. J. I. Roberts, Jr., 3450 So. Emerson St., Englewood. May 28
 or June 4.
 Des Moines, Iowa. Mrs. W. G. Dumont, 2700 49th St.
 Freeport, Ill. Mrs. W. L. Karcher, 1011 Stephenson St.
 Harrisburg, Pa. Mrs. Haldeman O'Connor, 13 No. Front St.
 Lafayette, Ind. May 21-22 or 28-29. Prof. H. S. Jackson, Purdue Univ.
 Lexington, Ky. May 19. Mrs. W. L. Carter, 430 W. 6th St.
 Lynchburg, Va. Miss Josephine Kinnier, 518 Washington St.
 New Haven, Conn. Wm. J. Rathgeber, 198 Norton St., June 8.
 New Rochelle, N. Y. Mrs. L. W. Hitchcock. Arrangements for Field Day
 at Bronx.
 Omaha, Neb. H. T. Judson, care of Pittsburg Plate Glass Co., 14th and
 Jones St.
 Ottawa, June 7-8. W. T. Macoun, Experimental Farm. Field Day June 8.
 Philadelphia, Pa. Field Day. Mrs. J. Edgar Hires, Ardmore.
 Portland, Me. Field Day. Mrs. Walter E. Tobie, 3 Deering St.
 Portland, Ore. H. E. Weed, Beaverton.
 Redlands, Calif. April. Raymond Hornby. Field Day. Sydney Hockridge.
 Rochelle, Ill. Mrs. J. E. Barber, 708 8th St.
 Saginaw, Mich. Mrs. A. D. LeFevere, 1022 So. Washington Ave.
 Seattle, Washington. "Spring Flower Club".
 Takoma Park, D. C., May 20-21. C. C. Thomas.
 Washington, D. C. L. G. Parker, 1401 H. St., N. W.

SHOW SECRETARIES SHOULD SEND ADEQUATE REPORTS
 BEFORE JUNE 30th.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held at 10.30 A. M., on the day following the Cincinnati Iris Exhibit. May 17th has been selected but is subject to change and adequate notice will be sent of such changes as the season demands.

The Committee on Arrangements has planned most generously for the entertainment of out-of-town members. It is proposed that the meeting be held at the Cincinnati Club, 8th and Race Sts., to be followed by a luncheon at 1 P. M., at which out-of-town members will be the guests of the Cincinnati Section. After luncheon automobiles will be furnished the out-of-town members for Garden visitations.

All this requires careful planning and I hope that members will notify Mr. Lewis R. Smith, 609 Union Trust Building, of their plans well in advance. As Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements he has "some" job and we can best express our appreciation of the hospitality of the Cincinnati Section by the promptness with which we inform him of our plans.

I am looking forward both to meeting many members with whom I have corresponded and to seeing again some of the Cincinnati irises.

